

# THE POWER OF GENUINE

## Community Group Discussion Guide

March 15, 2015

Week 4 | Prepared to Share Christ  
1 Peter 3:15-18

Read 1 Peter 3:15-18 before answering the following questions.

### Introduction

It's a challenge living in a nation that's increasingly cynical toward biblical truth and resistant to biblical standards of morality. Where once the Bible was respected, it's now often discredited and labeled as extreme and narrow minded. So, it's no surprise that those who believe the Bible to be God's Word are finding the same labels placed on them. The message of this short book shows us how to live in a sometimes hostile environment, and live in such a way that we not only persevere but also have a positive impact for good.

Key verse for series:  
"These have come so that your faith...may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed."  
1 Peter 1:7

### Questions for Study

1. If you're in a Community Group spend time talking through examples of well known people exposed for living a deceptive life...where they created a false impression of who they were. Talk about the impact this had on the lives of others.
2. Have you gone through the experience of knowing someone for whom you had a lot of respect, only to discover they weren't the person you thought they were? If yes, how did this impact you?
3. What were the circumstances of the people receiving Peter's letter? What perspective on their circumstances did Peter give them in the first chapter? Hint: There are two things Peter included in this perspective. You find them in the first nine verses.
4. Review Jeff's two sermons for the first two ways Peter said for those receiving his letter to show the genuineness of their faith. If you're in a Community Group, talk through these two ways together as a group.

The scripture for Sunday's sermon is 1 Peter 1:22-2:3. Read these verses again before answering the remaining questions.

5. Write down everything you learn from these verses.
6. Why is it true that loving people the way Jesus loves you epitomizes genuine faith? To help you answer this questions read the following verses: John 15:12 and Galatians 5:6,14
7. What's the number one reason you should never show malice toward another person, why you should tell the truth, why you shouldn't be envious, why you shouldn't talk badly about someone?



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Read 1 Peter 1:1-2:3 and 2:11-12 and 3:8-18 before answering the following questions.

### Introduction

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Key verse for series:  
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1 Peter 1:7

### Questions for Study

1. If you're in a Community Group spend time sharing your own spiritual journey leading you to faith in Jesus Christ. Reflect on conversations you had with Christians before becoming a follower of Christ. What was it about those conversations that was most helpful for you in understanding the Christian faith?
2. Were there any roadblocks that Christians created for you in wanting to become a follower of Christ? If yes, what were those roadblocks?
3. What would you say is most important in how we talk with another person about our faith in Jesus? (This question has more to do with how we say what we say than what we say.)
4. If you're having a conversation with someone about your faith in Jesus, what would you say are the key things you would share with them to help them understand how they can have a personal relationship with God?
5. The men and women receiving Peter's letter were going through severe persecution because of their faith in Christ. How does Peter say they should respond to those who are making life so difficult for them? (Answer is found in chapter two, verses 11-20 and chapter three, verse 9.)
6. In chapter three, verses 13-18, Peter speaks specifically to sharing our faith with people who are not believers in Christ. What is the one thing he tells his readers not to do? And instead of doing this, what does he tell them to do? Why is this so important for any one of us if we're going to have conversations with others about our faith?
7. Why does Peter emphasize 'gentleness and respect' in our conversations with others about our faith?
8. Carefully read verse 18 in the third chapter. What key elements of the gospel are included in this verse so that you could use this one verse in sharing your faith?