

# TAKEAWAY



## How to Live Right Now

### Part Seven: 1 Peter 3:8-12

#### DESIRED OUTCOMES

- To see the contrast in the way of the Cross and the way of the World
- To reflect on ways we need to turn from evil
- To talk about ways we can be God's refreshing presence in a dry and barren world

#### SHARE

Share any experiences from last time's try-outs.

What is public discourse like today? Is it getting better or worse? What is changing?

#### READ

1 Peter 3:1-7

#### DISCUSS

Ian shared a 'worldly' rewrite of verses 8-9:

*Finally, all of you, set clear boundaries between you and others. Be determined to win, putting yourself first, making sure everyone sees what a success you are. Do not let insults go unanswered. On the contrary, strike people back with double the ferocity they hit you.*

There are ways you could argue this worldly way of living makes sense, discuss how.

It's also ultimately a destructive way to live, discuss why. To what extent are you influenced by this way of living?

How radically does the way of the Cross described in the actual passage differ from this worldly version?

Verse ten has an emphasis on the tongue, this is also reflected in other verses in the New Testament, for example James 3:5 and James 1:26. How can the tongue be so dangerous? Is this a challenge for you?

*'A lie will go round the world while truth is pulling its boots on.'* How common is it for falsehoods to be spoken and spread today? How can that be counteracted?

Verse 11 says *"They must turn from evil and do good; they must seek peace and pursue it."* Note the verbs "turn", "seek" and "pursue". The verse is calling us to action. What does it mean to "turn from evil". Is there anything in your life that you need to turn from?

How can we seek and pursue peace? What ways are there in your day to day life that you can be a peacemaker? What examples can you think of where Christians in our local community already play this role?

#### TRY OUT

Meditate on Psalm 133, a few points to help you reflect:

- The oil represents the presence of God and the anointing to be priests (those able to enter God's presence). 1 Peter 2:5a says we *"are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood"* – there is a togetherness and unity in this.
- Mount Herman is a tall mountain where dew would commonly fall in the morning. Mount Zion is a dry, dusty hill on the outskirts of Jerusalem. What does the picture of dew falling where it's unexpected speak to you of?

How can you seek and pursue doing good this week? – offer hospitality, get involved in a local or church initiative, help a neighbour. Share one way you could do good this week. Celebrate next week. Find ideas here: [randomactsofkindness.org/kindness-ideas](http://randomactsofkindness.org/kindness-ideas)

**PRAY**

Pray for one another according to anything that came up in the discussion.  
Close by praying Psalm 133 together.