

“The Heart of Outreach”

1 Peter 3:15

Here is what happened to me:

- “Dave, how do you get into relationship with God?”
- “Dad, the boys tried to hang me!”

What we often struggle with:

- “I don’t even try to share the Gospel—it scares the daylights out of me.”
- “Why would you suggest that I have the wrong things at the center of my heart?”

What God explained and expects: “But sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence.”

“I expect you to explain with gentleness and reverence the hope inside of you.”

- Hope is a valuable resource:
- Without trust in Jesus there is no hope:

“I expect you to actively make Jesus supreme in your heart.”

- Sanctify:
- Colossians 3:4:

So: When Jesus is supreme in my heart...sharing hope flows naturally out of me.

- Proverbs 16:23:

What this means for you:

Choose to make Jesus supreme in your heart—utterly, permanently supreme!

What we should do:

“Walking Papers”

Practical helps for walking the Christian walk each day this week.

Key Truth: When Jesus is supreme in my heart...sharing hope flows naturally out of me.

1 Peter 3:15. “But sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence.”

Proverbs 16:23. “The heart of the wise instructs his mouth and adds persuasiveness to his lips.”

Please read: 1 Peter 3:15 and Proverbs 16:23 each day this week.

- **Today.** To what degree is Jesus supreme in your heart and life? What is the evidence? What can and will you do to make Him supreme to a greater degree?
- **Monday.** What is the level of biblical hope in your life—the level of settled assurance that God intends good for you and will bring you to heaven full of joy in His presence? To what degree is your hope only “hope so”? What can you do to increase and solidify your hope?
- **Tuesday.** Please reflect on the fact that everyone without Christ is without hope. Even if they look good and look happy and tell you life is good—they are without authentic hope. What does this mean for you?
- **Wednesday.** Please read, memorize, and reflect on Colossians 3:4
- **Thursday.** Please read and reflect on Proverbs 16:23.
- **Friday.** In casual conversations what do you find yourself talking about? What do these topics say about what is supreme in your heart?
- **Saturday.** To be ready to learn from God’s Word tomorrow morning please read and reflect on Psalm 24:1.

Note for Connection Groups: The full study guide for small group and personal study is available at: www.cypressbible.org (Quick Menu / Connect / Sermon Based Small Group Material).