Living Strong -week 1

Living Hope

1 Peter 1:1-8

1. An encouraging letter to people who were experiencing hardships.

*Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, strangers in the world, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.* ***1 Peter 1:1-2***

1. Hope is an essential during hardships.

*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade--kept in heaven for you.****1 Peter 1:3-4***

* Our hope has a source.
* Our hope is secure.

1. Hope changes our perspective.

*Who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that your faith--of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire--may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.* ***1 Peter 1:5-7***

* We have faith in God.
* We rejoice in trials.

1. Hope changes our response.

*Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.* ***1 Peter 1:8-9***

* Confidence
* Perseverance
* Courage