

Responding to Grace: doing the right thing

1 Peter 3:8-12

Having the Right Attitude
Having the Right Response
Having the Right Standard
Having the Right Incentive

Having The Right Attitude

1 Peter 3:8 **Finally**, all of you, have **unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind.**

Unity of mind (homophrōn): like-minded, harmonious, united in spirit, agreement among yourselves.

Sympathy (sympathēs): affected by like feeling; together suffering

Brotherly love (philadelphos): one who loves fellow believers

1 John 3:14 We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death.

Tender Heart (eusplanchos): compassionate

Ephesians 4:32 Be kind to one another, **tenderhearted**, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Humble mind (tapeinophrōn): humility

Matthew 11:29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and **lowly in heart**, and you will find rest for your souls.

1 Corinthians 2:16 “For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But **we have the mind of Christ.**

1 Peter 5:5–6 Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” ⁶Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you,

Having the Right Response

1 Peter 3:9 **Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling**, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing.

Evil (kakos): bad, wicked, wrong

Reviling (loidoria): slander, insult, verbal abuse

1 Peter 3:9 Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, **but on the contrary, bless**, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing.

Bless (eulogeō): speak well of

Matthew 5:38–48 “You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’³⁹ But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.⁴⁰ And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well.⁴¹ And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles.⁴² Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.⁴³ “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’⁴⁴ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,⁴⁵ so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?⁴⁸ You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Christians are free from vindictiveness because they trust God’s justice; but they are free for blessing because they know God’s goodness.

Clowney, Edmund P. 1988. [*The Message of 1 Peter: The Way of the Cross*](#). The Bible Speaks Today. Leicester, England; Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

1 Peter 3:9 Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, **blees, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing**.

1 Peter 2:21 For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.

Having the right Standard

1 Peter 3:10–11 For “**Whoever desires to love life and see good days**, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit;¹¹ let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it.

Desires to love life

Life (zoe): to be alive

1 Peter 3:10–11 For “Whoever desires to love life and see good days, **let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit**; ¹¹let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it.

James 3:6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell.

Proverbs 13:3 Whoever guards his mouth preserves his life; he who opens wide his lips comes to ruin.

Lips from speaking deceit

Psalms 51:6 Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

Proverbs 12:22 Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, but those who act faithfully are his delight.

1 Peter 3:10–11 For “Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit; ¹¹**let him turn away from evil and do good**; let him seek peace and pursue it.

Let him turn away (ekklinatō): cease, stop doing something, to bend away

Proverbs 3:7 Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil.

To do good is to do what is right no matter what.

1 Peter 3:10–11 For “Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit; ¹¹let him turn away from evil and do good; **let him seek peace and pursue it**.

The verbs translated **seek** and **pursue** both convey an intensity and aggressiveness of action.

MacArthur, John F., Jr. 2004. [1 Peter](#). MacArthur New Testament Commentary. Chicago: Moody Publishers.

We are to seek peace with God

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

Hebrews 12:14 Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.

Matthew 5:9 “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Having the Right Incentive

1 Peter 3:12 **For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous**, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

1 Peter 3:12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and **his ears are open to their prayer**. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

Hebrews 4:16 Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Romans 8:26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

1 Peter 3:12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. **But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.**”