

But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. 1 Peter 3:15-16 (NIV)

Hope In You

What is the reason for why you have hope in you? Why can you have joy in you when everything does not go your way? What keeps you going in the face of disappointment? Why will you not be deterred by setbacks. What do you have to look forward to even when you are in the deepest of valleys filled with discouragement? Those are all good questions for which I have one sure, rock solid answer. **What's that?** I have you to look forward to. I can keep my eyes fixed on you. You are my Savior and Lord. You are my God and King. You are my future and hope. You love and care for me. You lead and guide me through life. You lift me up when I have been brought down. You revive and refresh me when I am weary and worn. You are my refuge and strength in every storm. You are my hiding place in every difficulty. No matter what I go through, no matter what hardship I experience, no matter what setbacks I encounter; you are always with me to help me. When I have been unable to go further, you have carried me forward. When I have been hungry you have fed me. When I have been thirsty you have satisfied me. You have drawn near to me as I have drawn near to you. There is no place I can't go or nothing I can't do with you helping me. You are my power and strength. I will rely on you. I will look to you. You are my hope and future. You have filled me with your Holy Spirit as a deposit guaranteeing that one day soon, I will come to live forever in heaven with you. **Yes, you will.**

Will you tell others about the hope that you have in you? Will you let the light that is in you shine like a star in the universe for me? Will you allow your life to speak a message of hope to those who need me? Yes Lord, I will. **When will you begin?** I will begin right now. I will keep my eyes and ears open to every opportunity I have to share with others the hope that I have in me, which is you. **That will be very good.**

Lord, in my heart I have set you apart as my Lord. In all that I think, say, and do I want to please you. Help me to guard all my thoughts, words, and actions. Make me able to share the reason for all the hope that I have in you. Amen

Heart *Set Apart Christ As Lord*

But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

NIV 1 Peter 3:15-16

Heart *Worship Christ As Lord*

Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your Christian hope, always be ready to explain it. But do this in a gentle and respectful way. Keep your conscience clear. Then if people speak against you, they will be ashamed when they see what a good life you live because you belong to Christ.

NLT 1 Peter 3:15-16

Heart *Sanctify Christ As Lord*

but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame.

NRSV 1 Peter 3:15-16

Heart *Set Christ Apart As Holy As Lord*

But in your hearts set Christ apart as holy [and acknowledge Him] as Lord. Always be ready to give a logical defense to anyone who asks you to account for the hope that is in you, but do it courteously and respectfully. [And see to it that] your conscience is entirely clear (unimpaired), so that, when you are falsely accused as evildoers, those who threaten you abusively and revile your right behavior in Christ may come to be ashamed [of slandering your good lives].

AMP 1 Peter 3:15-16

Heart *Sanctify Christ As Lord*

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; and keep a good conscience so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ will be put to shame.

NASB 1 Peter 3:15-16

Heart *Honor Christ The Lord As Holy*

but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.

ESV 1 Peter 3:15-16

Heart *Sanctify The Lord God*

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed.

NKJV 1 Peter 3:15-16

Heart *Keep Your Hearts At Attention, In Adoration Before Christ*

Through thick and thin, keep your hearts at attention, in adoration before Christ, your Master. Be ready to speak up and tell anyone who asks why you're living the way you are, and always with the utmost courtesy. Keep a clear conscience before God so that when people throw mud at you, none of it will stick. They'll end up realizing that they're the ones who need a bath.

MSG 1 Peter 3:15-16

Heart *Trust Yourself To Christ Your Lord*

Quietly trust yourself to Christ your Lord, and if anybody asks why you believe as you do, be ready to tell him, and do it in a gentle and respectful way. Do what is right; then if men speak against you, calling you evil names, they will become ashamed of themselves for falsely accusing you when you have only done what is good.

TLB 1 Peter 3:15-16

Heart *Respect Christ As The Holy Lord*

But respect Christ as the holy Lord in your hearts. Always be ready to answer everyone who asks you to explain about the hope you have, but answer in a gentle way and with respect. Keep a clear conscience so that those who speak evil of your good life in Christ will be made ashamed.

NCV 1 Peter 3:15-16

Set Apart Christ As Lord

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Heart – 1 Peter 3:15-16

In Context: Read 1 Peter 3

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

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Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

But | in your hearts | set apart | Christ | as Lord. | Always | be prepared | to give | an answer | to everyone | who asks you | to give | the reason for | the hope | that | you have. | But | do this | with | gentleness and respect, | keeping | a clear conscience, | so that | those who | speak maliciously | against your | good behavior | in Christ | may be | ashamed of | their slander. 1 Peter 3:15-16 (NIV)

Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, in my heart I have set you apart as my Lord. In all that I think, say, and do I want to please you. Help me to guard all my thoughts, words, and actions. Make me able to share the reason for all the hope that I have in you. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

How has setting Christ apart as your Lord helped you to guard the words that have come out of your mouth?

When has setting Christ apart as your Lord motivated you to seek peace and pursue it with others?

How has setting Christ apart as your Lord allowed you to pray prayers that God will hear and answer?

When have you turned away from evil and sought to do good instead because Christ is set apart as your Lord?

How has setting Christ apart as your Lord made you ready you to give answer to others about the hope that is in you?

How has setting Christ apart as your Lord allowed you to live your life with a clear conscience?

When have you patiently endured suffering for doing good because Christ is set apart as your Lord?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Set apart Christ as your Lord so you will be able to live your life with and for Him.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that setting Christ apart as your Lord will enable you to live your life for Him.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how setting Christ apart as your Lord has changed your life.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you always be ready to share the reason for the hope in you because you have set Christ apart as your Lord.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, help me to be ready, willing and able to share the reason for all the hope that I have in you.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, with who can I share the hope that I have in me because you are my Savior and Lord?
