

Representing Christ
1 Peter 3:8-17 Discussion Questions

1. It was mentioned that the Nike swoosh is well known and everyone recognizes what it represents. What are some examples of other symbols that are well known and recognized? We talked about how we are supposed to be representing Christ. Are you surprised God wants to use you to represent Him? Explain. If someone watched a reality TV show of your life, would they see a good representation of Christ? Explain what areas might not represent Christ well in your life.
2. We are supposed to represent Christ to each other. According to 1 Peter 3:8, how are we supposed to relate to each other? Are any of these more difficult or challenging for you? Explain. What are some of the consequences if Christians treat each other the way the text talks about? What are some of the consequences if we don't treat each other this way?
3. We are supposed to represent Christ to the world. One way we do this is by not retaliating but instead by blessing others even when they are enemies (v.9). What does it mean to bless someone who is our enemy? Have you ever done this?
4. One way we can bless others is by being ready to "make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you" (v.15). Are you ready and prepared to explain the Christian faith to someone? If not, what can you do to prepare yourself? If you are able to share your faith, are you able to do it in a way that is winsome and "with gentleness?" Explain what happens if someone shares the faith but their motivation is to win an argument more than seeing a person come to Christ.
5. It was mentioned we should be motivated to represent Christ because of a healthy fear of God (vv.13-14). How do our fears reveal what we really value? What kinds of fears do you experience? What would it look like for you to replace those fears with a healthy fear of God?
6. In 1 Peter 3:17 we learn that sometimes it is God's will for us to suffer for doing good. How would you respond to someone who says it is never God's will for us to suffer? What are some lessons we can learn from Jesus' suffering that can motivate us when we suffer so that we represent Him well?