

(1 Peter 3:8-18) Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. <sup>9</sup> Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. <sup>10</sup> For, “Whoever would love life and see good days must keep their tongue from evil and their lips from deceitful speech. <sup>11</sup> They must turn from evil and do good; they must seek peace and pursue it. <sup>12</sup> For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.” <sup>13</sup> Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? <sup>14</sup> But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened.” <sup>15</sup> But in your hearts revere 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, <sup>16</sup> keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. <sup>17</sup> For it is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. <sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit.

✓ Success comes from \_\_\_\_\_ not

\_\_\_\_\_.

#### How To Be Thoughtful:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

## Discussion Questions

---

### Starter Questions

What is your favorite part about being in your group? If this is your first time being in a group, why did you sign up?

What are you looking forward to the most this session of Surge Groups?

### Group Discussion

Looking back on this message, what encouraged you, challenged you, or made you think?

Our text this week was 1 Peter 3:8-18. Re-read this as a group and discuss the phrases and/or verses that stick out to you.

In verse 8, Peter urges the body of believers to be like-minded, sympathetic, loving, compassionate, and humble.

- How will these characteristics impact your relationships with family members, friends or co-workers? Give personal examples, if you feel comfortable.
  
- Do we take this admonition as seriously as Peter does? Explain.

Re-read verse 15. Pastor Landon mentioned that this hope is a personal experience, with each person's response being different.

Take a moment to “be prepared.” If someone asked you the reason you have hope, what would you say?

Through this passage, we can learn to be thoughtful, not mindless. Answer the following questions regarding the difference between the two.

- On a scale of 1-5 (1 being mindless, 5 being thoughtful), how would you rank yourself? How would your spouse or close friend rank you? Why?
- Being mindless means “*to have no intelligent purpose, meaning, or direction.*” Where in your life do you find yourself being mindless?
- Being thoughtful means “*to be absorbed in.*” Where do you find yourself being most thoughtful?

We were challenged in the sermon notes to be thoughtful by...

- watching our mouth
- doing good
- talking about our hope
- living through suffering

Choose two of the items listed above, and share how you can be more thoughtful this week.

---

## Prayer Requests

---

---

## Additional Resources

---

---

## Announcements

---

**Sunday, September 22** is our **College Age kickoff!** This event is designed for anyone in their teens and twenties looking to connect with other college students or young professionals. Join us immediately following either service at 5615 E 85<sup>th</sup> St, Valley Center, KS for free food and connections!

It's not too late to join a **Surge Group**. Our Significant Relationship Groups runs for 10 weeks, from September 15 to November 23. Visit Connection Corner or mark your connection card in the welcome guide for more information.

Interested in learning more about New Anthem Church? Are you ready to discover your gifting and passions? Join us for **NEXT!** These sessions meet during second service in the New Anthem Lounge on **October 6, 13, and 20**. Sign up today!