

SCC Small Group Discussion
Full Steam Ahead: Be a Witness

Derived from a sermon on July 26, 2026 by Dr. Jeff Chandler

Getting Started:

Opener: What's your greatest fear when you find yourself in a conversation with someone and it turns into a discussion about God?

Searching the Scriptures:

Read 1 Peter 3:13-22

1. In what way, if any, do these verses 13-14 reflect your own experience in life.

2. Have you ever been mistreated or made fun of for being a Christian or taking a stand for something good? What happened? How did you deal with it?

3. Do you feel like you are ready to explain your "Christian hope" if you were asked about it? What might you say first?

4. Why is it better to suffer for doing good than for doing wrong?

5. Why is both the death and resurrection of Christ important for our understanding of what He has done for us? (See v. 18)

6. Some commentators think verses 19-22 are saying that Jesus preached to people in the past who had rejected God, primarily those who had rejected Noah's warning message. It is the only direct reference of this type in the New Testament, but was important enough to be reflected in the Apostle's creed. ("He descended into hell" or "to the dead"). There is also a reference in Acts 2:25-32 in which Peter quotes Psalm 16:8-11 that God would not leave Jesus among the dead or allow his body to decay. Why do you think this detail became part of a Christian creed?

7. Based on this passage, try to explain the meaning of baptism in your own words.

Application

Think about the reason for the hope you have. Why do you hope (trust) in Jesus?

How might you communicate this hope to someone else?