

Conclusion: What are You Expecting?

LIVE THE STORY

*The Gospel is intended to be learned and lived in community.
The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.*

- What is both surprising and unsurprising about Peter's confession that Jesus is the Christ?
- Were Peter's or John's expectations concerning the Messiah unreasonable? Why do you think Peter rebuked Jesus?
- Have you ever had disappointed ambitions that caused you to be offended with God? How can we avoid this?
- What is it about how Jesus answered John (Matthew 11:4-6) that informs how we should expect him to answer us in our own times of questioning?
- Given that the greatest of the Old Testament prophets (John) did not understand what God had planned in the first advent of the Christ, how should we approach the attempts of various preachers to make specific predictions concerning the return of Christ?
- What assumptions have you made about your marriage, career, your children, a church, or the country (take your pick) that are beyond God's promises? How should you adjust your expectations?
- Is there any area in your life right now in which you are holding more tightly to your own expectations than to the promises of God?

TRANSFORMING EXPECTATIONS

Responding to God when Expectations Fail
Pete Mishler — November 27, 2016

Introduction - Expectations

I. The Transformation of Peter's Expectations (Matthew 16:13-27)

- A. Peter has a revelation. (13-20)
- B. Peter has an expectation.
- C. Jesus adjusts Peter's expectations. (21)
- D. Peter rebukes Jesus. (22)
 - i. How does Peter respond to this new information?
 - ii. Peter's ambitions
- E. Jesus rebukes Peter. (23)

F. Transforming Expectations (24-27)

i. Give up on things we naturally want but God has not promised, and cultivate a hope in what He has promised.

ii. Throw in your lot with Jesus!

a) John 6:67-69

b) John 21:18-19

II. John the Baptist's Response to Failed Expectations (Matthew 11:2-6)

A. Observations about the John the Baptist

B. John's Expectations

i. What was Jesus doing and not doing?

ii. Was John's expectation wrong? (Luke 1:67-79)

C. John Seeks Confirmation

i. But what is John's question?

ii. What can we learn from John?

D. Jesus' Answer

i. What we are called to do.

ii. Jesus Uses Scripture to Speak to His Followers

E. Offended With Jesus

i. 1 Peter 2:7-8

ii. 1 Peter 2:9; 1:4-5

III. Peter & Paul on Suffering

A. Peter (1 Peter 4:1)

B. Paul (Philippians 3:10)

C. If we want to be where our Lord is, we must embrace the place of suffering, for this is where the Lord is and where we will find his resurrection power.