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# Study 8

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How should we live in a hostile world?

## Get Talking

1. In which of the following areas of life have you witnessed hostility towards the Christian faith and how? Discuss your response to such hostility.
  - a. Family
  - b. Work
  - c. Neighbours
  - d. Friends
  - e. Government

## READ 1 Peter 2:4-12

2. How is the experience of Jesus mirrored in the experience of his church?
3. What comfort does God give his people here?
4. What is the church's identity in this hostile world (2:9)? What do each of these phrases mean for us and the role the church has to play in the world?
5. How are we supposed to think of ourselves, according to 2:11? What does this mean for our attitude to this world and how we engage with it?

6. How does 2:12 challenge the church to avoid both being accommodating to the world on the one hand and fighting against the world on the other? Can you share an example of this in your life?

7. What is our (ie. the church's) goal, according to v12?

**READ 1 Peter 2:13-3:7**

8. What examples of authority does Peter list in these verses?

9. How does God want the church to live in relation to them? What affect will this have?

**READ 1 Peter 3:8-18**

10. At what point, should the church start to fight back? Why do you say so?

11. What should we always do though, according to 3:15-18?

**Pray**

12. Take some time to pray through what the Lord has reminded, convicted, challenged and encouraged you by through this study.