Peter was writing to a group of people who, because of their faith, were facing persecution. We have seen that Peter initially was reminding them of who they were. People known by God, chosen, cleansed and made holy through the work of Jesus Christ and the presence of the Holy Spirit in their lives. Not only that, but they had great hope for the future.

In response to all that God had done for them, Peter directed them "to live in reverent fear of him" and "trust in God". So, "like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation." (I Peter 2:2)

What is this "full experience of salvation"? I Peter 2:4 - 12 outlines what happens when we come to Christ. Jesus said, "I will build my church." In these verses we gain an insight into the church that Jesus is building.

What do you see are the characteristics of the church of Jesus Christ?