



DAY 22



BE PREPARED

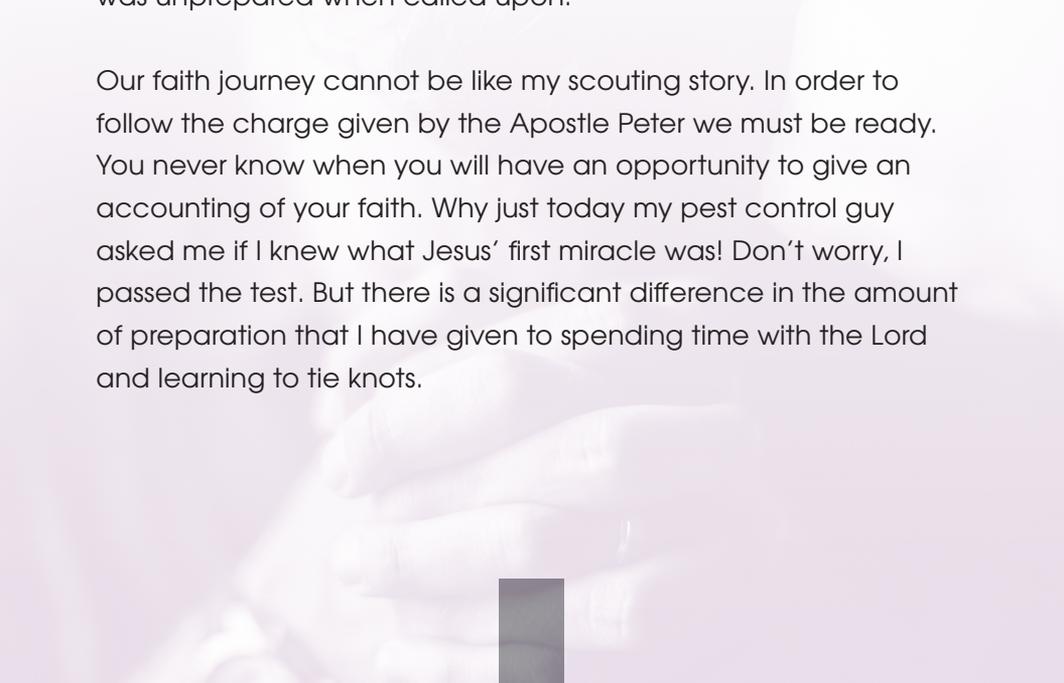
But sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;

1 Peter 3:15

Be Prepared is the motto of the Boy Scouts. I was a scout for a brief time. I really liked getting merit badges and patches to show off my adventures. In the spirit of true confession, I wasn't a good scout. I did not progress very far. I was never prepared! The knot tying skills always eluded me, not because they were particularly difficult, but simply because I didn't practice tying them.

Whenever I went before the council it was always apparent that I was unprepared when called upon.

Our faith journey cannot be like my scouting story. In order to follow the charge given by the Apostle Peter we must be ready. You never know when you will have an opportunity to give an accounting of your faith. Why just today my pest control guy asked me if I knew what Jesus' first miracle was! Don't worry, I passed the test. But there is a significant difference in the amount of preparation that I have given to spending time with the Lord and learning to tie knots.



There are other things in my life that I have studied and spent a great deal of time learning that I could speak about with some authority. That's the way of our passions, isn't it?

What are some areas of your life that you could speak with confidence about with little preparation?

How does your zeal for studying scripture, spending time in prayer, and listening to the Lord compare?

Lord, please help us to be ready to give an account of our love for you, and for the hope found only in the gospel. Forgive us for putting other pursuits before you. Help us also to align the passions and desires into further opportunities to share your love with others as we recognize you are Lord over all creation. Amen

