

Joyful Life Bible Studies

I PETER 4:1-6

Lesson 13

FIRST DAY: Review and Overview

1. Review I Peter 3:13-22. How have these verses encouraged, challenged or inspired you concerning your Christian witness?
2. Again and again through our study of I Peter we have been reminded of the Lord's great love and sacrifice for us. This glorious truth should stir within us a desire to live a life that is pleasing to the Lord. This week's lesson provides practical instructions to help us do this. Read I Peter 4:1-6. Write a brief title for these verses.
3. Prayer is an essential part of Bible study. Take a few moments now to write a prayer to the Lord expressing your desire to understand and apply His Word. Include any specific needs you may have in relationship to your lesson.

*Then opened He their understanding,
that they might understand the scriptures.*

Luke 24:45

SECOND DAY: Read I Peter 4:1(2)

1. Christ's suffering for us is a prevalent theme woven throughout I Peter. In I Peter 4:1 believers are to consider His suffering and the effect it should have on our lives. This verse relates to I Peter 3:18. In recognition that *Christ suffered for us*, what are we to do? Answer by completing the following exhortation from I Peter 4:1b:

a _____ y _____ l _____ w _____ t _____ s _____ m _____:

- a. How does this speak to you about being prepared and willing to suffer for Christ?
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2. Pastor Chuck says: *When believers suffer we are to have the mental attitude of Christ.* Summarize what each of the following verses reveal about *the mind of Christ*:
 - a. John 15:12,13
 - b. Philippians 2:(5,6) 7,8
 - c. Hebrews 12:(1)2
 - d. How can you follow His example today?

Advanced Students: Research and give an explanation of I Peter 4:1c: *for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin.*

3. Read Romans 6:6,7,11. What additional understanding of I Peter 4:1c do these verses give you?
4. How should Christ's willingness to suffer for us affect our attitude toward suffering?

*For whoever has suffered in the flesh (having the mind of Christ)
has done with (intentional) sin - has stopped pleasing himself
and the world, and pleases God.
I Peter 4:1c Amplified*

THIRD DAY: Read I Peter 4:(1)2

1. I Peter 4:2 should be written on every Christian's mind and heart. Thoughtfully record it here phrase by phrase.
 - a. In what way does this speak to you about how we are **not** to use our *time*?

2. Think about the following instruction: *That he no longer should live . . . in the flesh to the lusts of men.*
I Peter 4:2a Record any insights you receive about this from the following verses:
 - a. II Corinthians 5:15

 - b. Galatians 5:24

 - c. Galatians 6:14

3. What does Romans 12:1,2 reveal to you about doing *the will of God*?

4. In response to today's study, write a prayer to the Lord expressing your desire and commitment to live to please Him.

*To be pleasing You, pleasing You
this is all I really want to do.
-selected 🎵*

FOURTH DAY: Read I Peter 4:3-5

1. Notice the word *time* is used again in I Peter 4:3. Prior to being born again we spent our *time* walking in sin. How does verse 3 describe these believers former life?

- a. Observe verse 3a NIV: *You have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do.* Summarize the instruction given to believers in Ephesians 4:22-24 concerning how we are to live now.

2. Read I Peter 4:4. How do old friends react to those who become Christians and stop indulging in unbridled immorality, lust, drunkenness, partying and idol worship?
 - a. If you have experienced this, write a brief account of it.

3. Observe I Peter 4:4 NLT: *Of course, your former friends are very surprised when you no longer join them in the wicked things they do, and they say evil things about you.* Recall from the following verses what the best reaction would be to their ridicule and slander:
 - a. I Peter 2:21-23

 - b. I Peter 3:15

4. Read I Peter 4:5. The word *Who* in this verse refers to those who walk in ungodly behavior and slander. To Whom will they give an *account*?
 - a. How should the awareness of this help Christians endure insults by friends from their former life?

*Those who do not accept Him as their Saviour
must face Him as their Judge.*
-selected

FIFTH DAY: Read I Peter 4:6

1. Read I Peter 4:6. Pastor Chuck links this verse with I Peter 3:19. He teaches that Christ descended into the lower parts of the earth (*hades*) and preached to those who *died in faith (not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them Hebrews 11:13)*. What was preached to them? Answer from I Peter 4:6.
 - a. *Gospel* means *good news*. Use Romans 1:16 to explain why it is *good news*.

2. What is the essence of the *gospel* according to I Corinthians 15:(1a)3b,4?
 - a. When and how was the *gospel* preached to you?

3. The *gospel* should have an effect on those who have heard and believed. Think about your life before and after Christ. What changes have occurred?

*Only let your conduct
be worthy of the gospel of Christ
Philippians 1:27a NKJV*

SIXTH DAY: Review I Peter 4:1-6

1. How has this week's study strengthened your desire and commitment to please the Lord?

2. Recall what you learned about *the mind of Christ*.

