LESSEONS THIS QUARTER
1) 04 Sept. 1 Peter 1:1-12 Be Holy
2) 11 Sept. 1 Peter 1:13-25 Always Ready
3) 18 Sept. 1 Peter 2:1-10 Building Our Faith
4) 25 Sept. 1 Peter 2:1-25. Living as Strangers
5) 02 Oct. 1 Peter 3:1-12 Living in Relationship
6) 09 Oct. 1 Peter 3:13-22 Always Ready
7) 16 Oct. 1 Peter 4:1-11 Equipped to Live
8) 23 Oct. 1 Peter 4:12-19 When Ridiculed
9) 30 Oct. 1 Peter 5:1-14 Alert Living
10) 06 Nov. 2 Peter 1:3-11 Being Useful
11) 13 Nov. 2 Peter 1:1-21 With Trust
12) 20 Nov. 2 Peter 2:1-22/Jude 1-25 On Guard
13) 27 Nov. 2 Peter 3:1-18 With Anticipation

INTRODUCTION
- Time here on earth is very short, so spend it wisely – and give more time to serious prayer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Passage</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Peter 4:1-2</td>
<td>Arm Yourself Not with a Weapon – But with a Purpose</td>
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<td>✔ How should we do this?</td>
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<td>✔ Consider when you set a goal to diet or to save more money – you make plans to do or not do specific things and you track your progress</td>
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<td>✔ Same thing with arming yourself with a purpose to serve God – Make plans to make things happen; set fixed times for bible study and prayer; figure out how to take on additional missionaries to support</td>
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Old Things Have Passed Away
- Peter is actually addressing fairly new Christians who have recently accepted Christ, left their old way of life as party animals, and now their rowdy friends are bugging them, pleading with them to come back
- v3. The sins mentioned are the same we see today
  - More Education doesn't work
  - More Job Creation doesn’t work
  - More Money doesn’t work
- What prompts someone to forsake the party life and become a “boring” Christian?
  - Could it be fewer chances of getting STDs? Or waking up without hangovers? Or living life with hope?

Our Christian Life Should Not Be Boring
- We are promised persecution, so plan for it
  - “A wise man sees trouble coming & hides” .... Prov 22:3
- In fact, if we serve God with fervency, we can expect to live life on the edge – where even our friends become our enemies, and our enemies become our friends
- Life is anything but boring for a Christian

Purpose of the Gospel ➔ Permanent Judgment
- Clarke’s Commentary says “There are as many different translations of this verse, and comments upon it, as there are translators and commentators”
- Consider the New Living Translation: “That is why the Good News was preached to those [believers] who are now dead — so although they were destined to die like all people, they now live forever with God in the Spirit.”

Purpose of Prayer ➔ Change Lives for the Better
- Peter stresses 3 major points for being praying warriors
  1. Time is Short (Urgency of the Gospel – Rom 10)
  2. Be Disciplined (Plan it out – who, what, when, where)
  3. Be Sober/Righteous (Act wisely – 1Thes 5:8)
- This is in line with what Paul said in Eph 5:16 We must “Redeem the time, because the days are evil”
- Remember – Effective praying accomplishes things

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS
- Christianity is not an armchair religion – we need to be busy NOW

NEXT WEEK: 1 Peter 4:12-19. Judgment begins with the household of God. Can God judge a sinful world when His own house is dirty? God must first clean His house – which involves cleaning the dirty, straightening the crooked, and finding the missing

Lord, I can't say it in words... Can you please just listen through my heart.

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