

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 02 Mar..... 1 Peter 1:1-12..... Our Inheritance
- 2) 09 Mar..... 1 Peter 1:13-25..... Our Mandate
- 3) 16 Mar..... 1 Peter 2:1-10..... Our Identify
- 4) 23 Mar..... 1 Peter 2:11-25..... Our Witness
- 5) 30 Mar..... 1 Peter 3:1-12..... Our Relationships
- 6) 06 Apr..... 1 Peter 3:13-22..... Our Defense
- 7) 13 Apr..... 1 Peter 4:1-11..... Our Faith**
- 8) 20 Apr..... Mark 15-16..... EASTER – Our Savior
- 9) 27 Apr..... 1 Peter 4:12-19..... Our Savior
- 10) 04 May..... 1 Peter 5:1-14..... Be Prepared
- 11) 11 May..... 2 Peter 1:1-21..... Be Equipped
- 12) 18 May..... 2 Peter 2:1-22 / Jude 1-25..... Be Alert
- 13) 25 May..... 2 Peter 3:1-18..... Be Encouraged

INTRODUCTION

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

Passage	Comments
1Peter 4:1-2	<p>Arm Yourself Not with a Weapon – But with a Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How should we do this? • 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 • 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 support additional missionaries
4:3-4	<p>Old Things Have Passed Away</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 and pleading with them to come back • v3. The sins mentioned are the same we see today <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 vibrant Christian
4:5-6	<p>Purpose of the Gospel → Permanent Judgment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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."
4:7	<p>Purpose of Prayer → Change Lives for the Better</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter stresses 3 major points for praying warriors: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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

Passage	Comments
4:8	<p>Love Covers a Multitude of Sins</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If we truly and "fervently" [agape] love someone, we will overlook their small sins (e.g. bad attitudes, words, etc) • Akin to a grandparent's love for their grandkids – who can do no wrong • Some Christians are like porcupines – you get hurt every time you go near them, or they hurt someone they go near – So, remove the quills
4:9	<p>Be Hospitable without Complaining</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does this apply to a spouse or kid who leaves their dirty clothes scattered around the house? • Hospitality = 2 Grk words philo-xenos (love strangers) • What are some applications of this passage? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Consider the Good Samaritan ♦ Consider when Jesus sent His disciples out and told them to look for those who would welcome them
4:10-11	<p>Gifts are For Serving Others for God's Glory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does someone speak as "the utterances of God"? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Peter could've easily summarized the various gifts related to speaking such as prophecy, teaching, exhortation, tongues/interpretation of tongues • How does someone serve as "by the strength of God"? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Peter could've summed up the various service gifts such as giving, mercy, administration, discernment, miracles, healings, wisdom, knowledge, faith • And how does God receive glory from such acts? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Consider 1Cor 14:24-25, when a non-believer sees the church behave properly, he is convicted of his sins and falling on his face he worships God • For a more in-depth study of the gifts, see 1Cor 12-14 • How would we be a bad steward of God's gifts to us? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Seeking self-gratification (look-at-me) ♦ Willful and repeated absence from fellowship ♦ Negligent in showing love and concern for others ♦ Not using them, or not getting involved as we should

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

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

NEXT WEEK: 1Peter 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

