

ALLEN TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School Live 

May 21, 2023

Lesson Title: Hope Through Stewardship

Lesson Text: 1st Peter 4: 1-11

Devotional Reading: Luke 12; 1st Peter 1- 4

Facilitator : M.C. McCants

LESSON CONTEXT

- 1. Authors: (Simon/Cephas)Peter (Petros)/Silvanus.**
- 2. Location: Babylon, Rome**
- 3. Audience: Churches at Asia Minor (Now Turkey).**
- 4. Purpose: Encouragement During Suffering.**
- 5. Instructions for Holy Living.**

TODAYS' LESSON INTRODUCTION

- 1) Peter uses Christs suffering, death and resurrection for reflection and motivation.
- 2) Instructs the audience to arm themselves with the same mind of Christ.
- 3) To separate from sin and live for Christ.
- 4) Love one another, (Without Complaining).
- 5) Be good stewards of Gods Grace.
- 6) Speak and serve that GOD be Glorified.

LESSON OUTLINES

- 1. Mirror the mind of Christ 1st Peter 4:1-3**
- 2. Separation is Preparation 1st Peter 4:4-6**
- 3. Love Another | Glorify God 1st Peter 4:7-11**

GOALS FOR THIS LESSON

- 1. To learn and apply the proper process of responding to persecution for our faith.**
- 2. Activating and maintaining a lifestyle of Holiness, dedication and HUMILITY.**
- 3. Keep the commandments of Christ, Love.**
- 4. Identifying areas in need of improvement.**

LESSON OBJECTIVES

- 1) Examine how we manage persecution.**
- 2) Understand the changes and persecution that come with changed behavior for Christ.**
- 3) Remember Christ. Remember that trials are temporary, and with Jesus Christ we are all victorious. Change Your Perspective.**

1ST PETER 4:1-2 NRSV

1 Since, therefore, Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same intention (for whoever has suffered in the flesh has finished with sin),² so as to live for the rest of your time in the flesh no longer by human desires but by the will of God.

1ST PETER 4:3-4 NRSV

³ You have already spent enough time in doing what the gentiles like to do, living in debauchery, passions, drunkenness, revels, carousing, and lawless idolatry. ⁴ They are surprised that you no longer join them in the same excesses of dissipation, and so they blaspheme.

1ST PETER 4:5-6 NRSV

⁵ But they will have to give an accounting to him who stands ready to judge the living and the dead. ⁶ For this is the reason the gospel was proclaimed even to the dead, so that, though they had been judged in the flesh as everyone is judged, they might live in the spirit as God does.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, OBSERVATIONS?

- 1) What does it mean to arm ourselves with the mind of Christ?**
- 2) How do we suffer in the flesh today?**
- 3) What am I supposed to do if I am being persecuted by my own family for my Faith?**
- 4) What will God be Judging me for if I'm Saved?**

KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER

- 1. Having the mind of Christ means rejecting our own carnal thoughts. Psalms 1:1-3**
- 2. Verbal persecution is no less significant than physical. We must ask & trust God to remove it. Give us the wisdom & strength to withstand it or reject it and Glorify GOD in the midst of it all.**
- 3. This means having a victorious mindset.**

1ST PETER 4:7-9 NRSV

⁷ The end of all things is near; therefore, be serious and discipline yourselves for the sake of your prayers. ⁸ Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹ Be hospitable to one another without complaining.

1ST PETER 4:10 NRSV

¹⁰ Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.

1ST PETER 4:11 NRSV

¹¹ Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

QUESTIONS COMMENTS, OBSERVATIONS?

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- 1) Who will be Judged 1st when Christ returns?**
- 2) How are we to prepare for Christ's return?**
- 3) What will be the 3 surprises in Heaven? 😊**
- 4) What does the text say is most important?**
- 5) How should we use our God given gifts?**

KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER

- 1. There is a higher expectation of love to others from the believer than there is from the unbeliever. The contrast is NOT all “church folk” are loving people. We are all God’s creation, but we are not all God’s Children. SO: “Get Right & Be the Light!”**
- 2. Jesus is Coming Back: How Will I Measure?**

Scripture References

Matthew 22:36-39 NRSV

Mark 12:30-33 NRSV

Mark 8: 34-38

Matthew 24: 36, 42-44

1st Corinthians 15:58

LESSON SUMMARY

Sinful human nature is contrary to the nature of Christ. Prayerfully consider ways that you can minister to the body of Christ to build up and not tear down. Do not overlook the needs and hurts of our fellow servants. Be an encouraging, empowering blessing to your leaders, co-laborers in Christ, and especially the wounded soldiers.

APPLICATION FOR ACTIVATION

**Want to get closer to GOD? Study, Pray & Abstain.
Search for a reading plan, get a prayer partner/
accountability partner. (You Can Trust).
Under Verbal / Physical Attack (Pray for Deliverance).
Sitting on Spiritual Gifts ; Ask God for Guidance & Get
Moving. Stressed, depressed & angry, hurt Bow
Down, Cry Out to GOD & Pray With Me. Fight Back.**

BIBLICAL STUDY RESOURCES

- 1. PRECEPTS FOR LIVING.**
- 2. NASB NIV | NRSV STUDY BIBLE**
- 3. BIBLEREF.COM, BIBLESTUDYTOOLS.COM,**
- 4. GOTQUESTIONS.ORG | The Book of 1st Peter |**
- 5. Zondervan Press Bible Study: Peter**