

Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

1 Peter 4:1-11

Lesson 10

1 Peter 4:1 begins with the words *Therefore, since Christ suffered for us*. Because Christ *suffered for us*, there is a response expected from the believer. This week's lesson reveals how we should live, the equipping of the Holy Spirit to encourage one another, and the ultimate goal we should have *in all things*. May this lesson inspire you to *live the rest of your time ... for the will of God*.

DAY ONE: Read 1 Peter 4:1-11

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they were about?

a. 1 Peter 4:1-11 has been divided into two paragraph divisions. List below the subject(s) covered in each section.

Verses 1-6

Verses 7-11

How would you title each section? Record your title on the **Chapter & Paragraph Division Titles Chart** provided with your Observation Worksheet.

2. At the right-hand side of the same chart are columns labeled **Key Word** and **Symbol**. They have been provided for you to record the key words and the symbol you have chosen to represent each one. Record the key words listed below and their symbols on the chart.

From previous lessons: *God, Jesus (Christ), glory/glorified*, and the phrase *according to*

New to this lesson: *flesh*, and the phrases *will of* and *one another*

Now, using the symbols you have chosen, mark each of the key words each time they are used in 1 Peter 4:1-11. Remember, as you mark the words *God* and *Christ* to mark any personal pronouns that refer to Them.

3. Note the term of conclusion *therefore* in verses 1 and 7. Choose one conclusion and record what it was based upon.

4. Peter used the contrasting term *but* three times in this section (verses 2, 6, and 7). Choose one of them and record the contrast that Peter made.

5. Choose one of the key words from question #2 and record what you learned.

DAY TWO: Read 1 Peter 4:1-3

1. Christ's suffering for us is a prevalent theme woven throughout 1 Peter. In 1 Peter 4:1, believers are to consider His suffering and the effect it should have on our lives. In recognition that *Christ suffered for us*, what are we to do?
 - a. Choose one of the following passages and record what it reveals about *the mind of Christ*.
John 15:12,13; Philippians 2:5-8; Hebrews 12:1,2
 - 1.) How should Christ's willingness to suffer for us affect our attitude toward suffering?
2. 1 Peter 4:2 speaks of the proper use of our *time*. In what way does this speak to you?
 - a. Think about the instruction *that he no longer should live ... in the flesh for the lusts of men*. How do the following verses add to your understanding?
2 Corinthians 5:15

Galatians 5:24

Galatians 6:14
3. Notice the word *time* is used again in 1 Peter 4:3. Prior to being born again we spent our *time* walking in sin. How does verse 3 describe the former life of these believers?
 - a. *You have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do...* (1 Peter 4:3 NIV). Summarize the instruction given to believers in Ephesians 4:22-23 concerning how we are to live now.

DAY THREE: Read 1 Peter 4:4-6

1. Read 1 Peter 4:4. How do old friends react to those who become Christians and stop indulging in unbridled immorality?

a. How have you experienced this in your own life?

2. *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* (1 Peter 4:4 NLT). Using 1 Peter 2:21-23 and 1 Peter 3:15, what would be the best reaction to their ridicule and slander?

3. Read 1 Peter 4:5. To whom does the word *they* refer to?

a. To whom will they *give an account*?

1.) What is He *ready* to do?

Those who do not accept Him as their Savior must face Him as their Judge

b. In what way does this help you endure *insults* (NIV) from others?

4. 1 Peter 4:6 is often linked with 1 Peter 3:19. Christ descended into Hades and preached to those who died in faith (*...not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them...* Hebrews 11:13). What was preached to them?

a. *Gospel* means good news. Use Romans 1:16 to explain why it is good news.

b. According to 1 Corinthians 15:1-4, what is the essence of the *gospel*?

c. 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?

DAY FOUR: Read 1 Peter 4:7-9

1. 1 Peter 4:7 begins with a wake up call. What is it?
 - a. Knowing that *the end of all things is at hand* (the coming of the Lord), what does 1 Peter 4:7b tell us we should be doing?
 - b. What helps you live each day with the expectation of seeing Jesus?
 - c. What concerns come to mind when you realize *the end of all things is at hand*?
2. The awareness that the time is short should affect our relationships. Peter addressed this in 1 Peter 4:8. What did he say?
3. Consider the importance of *love* through Peter's statement *above all things*. Summarize what the following verses reveal about this:

Matthew 22:36-40

1 Corinthians 13:13

1 John 4:7,8
4. *Above all things have intense and unfailing love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins – forgives and disregards the offenses of others.* (Amplified) What influence would this kind of love have on our relationships?
5. In what practical way are believers encouraged to love one another according to 1 Peter 4:9?
 - a. Notice the attitude in which this should be done. Why is this so important?

DAY FIVE: Read 1 Peter 4:10,11

1. 1 Peter 4:10 reminds us that each believer has *received* a spiritual *gift*. What does this verse tell us about our responsibility?

2. God equips each believer with spiritual gifts or talents to serve Him and others. From the following Scriptures, list a few of the specific gifts that are mentioned:

Romans 12:6-8

1 Corinthians 12:8-11

Ephesians 4:11

a. What important truth do you learn about spiritual gifts from 1 Corinthians 13:1-3?

3. Believers are to use their *gifts* to *minister to one another*. The word *minister* means *serve*. Why are we to serve one another in this way? Answer from Ephesians 4:12,13.

4. In 1 Peter 4:11 Peter continued his instruction concerning spiritual *gifts*. Observe this by completing the following phrases from verse 11a.

a. *If anyone speaks*

b. *If anyone ministers*

1.) Why is it important to remember this as we serve?

5. According to 1 Peter 4:11, what is the ultimate purpose for Christian ministry?

a. How does this speak to you about the motive you should have as you serve others?

1.) What are some things we can do to be sure the *glory* goes to God?

2.) Focus one more time on the phrase *that in all things God may be glorified*. How can we keep this perspective in *all things* that we do?

DAY SIX: Review 1 Peter 4:1-11

1. Describe the *mind of Christ* as it relates to 1 Peter 4:1,2.
2. What are some things about the Christian lifestyle that unbelievers find to be *strange*?
3. How would knowing that the world is going to end this year change the way you think or act?
4. 1 Peter 4:9 encourages *hospitality*. In what ways can you offer hospitality?
5. Each believer has *received a gift*. What *gift* has God given you that you could use to serve others?
6. Why is it important that *in all things God be glorified*?
7. Share one thing about this lesson that impacted you.

*For you were bought at a price;
therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.
-1 Corinthians 6:20*