



## LESSON 7

### 1 Peter 4:1-11

1. Which verse or truth from **1 Peter 3:8-22** shaped your perspective on the events of the past week, and why?
  
2. Invite the Holy Spirit to engage your mind and heart as you read **1 Peter 4:1-11**. List a few ways that Peter contrasts the behavior and lifestyle of worldly-minded individuals with the behavior and lifestyle in which believers should engage.
  
3. Review **VI-2** several times to grasp Peter's reasoning, referring back to the preceding verses to trace his flow of thought.
  - a) Describe the attitude of Jesus Christ and the ramifications for our lives when we emulate Him. Share your thoughts on what Peter might mean by "whoever suffers in the body is done with sin"?
  
  - b) Contemplate the significance of the imagery of battle preparation when Peter calls believers to "arm" themselves (**VI**). How does reminding us that we are in a battle prepare us for daily life in our thoughts, attitudes, and actions?

4. In **V3-4**, Peter speaks into pagan pleasures and reckless and wild living. What are some desires, habits or associations that you no longer join in as a believer? How has this change surprised those who witness your life, maybe even provoking abuse?
5. *Note: Bible scholars don't agree on V5-6.* What truth do you glean from these verses, written to God's people who were being abused and persecuted for the sake of the gospel? Think through giving an account to God for your life as opposed to being judged by human standards.
6. Peter's bold statement that "the end of all things is near" (**V7**) has far-reaching implications. What insights do the verses below provide about what to expect at the end of all things?
- **Matthew 24:1-14**
  
  - **2 Peter 3:10-13**
  
  - **1 John 3:2**
- 7) a) How are believers to live in light of the end being near according to **1 Peter 4:7-11**? What are the reasons given for doing so?
- b) In view of **V10-11**, consider the gifts that God has given you and how you might steward them to serve others. Be prepared to share your thoughts with your group.

8. Our passage is bookended by references to Jesus Christ. Write a truth about how the life and work of Jesus Christ enables us to live as strangers in this world.

**9. LIVING AS STRANGERS: ALERT AND SOBER-MINDED**

a) Three times in his letter, Peter encourages his readers to be alert and sober minded. What does it mean to be alert and sober-minded in the context of each of these verses?

- **1 Peter 1:13**

- **1 Peter 4:7**

- **1 Peter 5:8**

b) Where in your life do you sense God is calling you to be more watchful, aware or serious? What is one thing you can do (or stop doing) to live this way?

**NAME**

**PRAYER REQUEST**