

1 Peter 4:1-11  
“Hope In A Hostile World”

AS YOU SETTLE IN...

- Turn to the book of (1 Peter 4:1-11) NKJV

~ LET'S PRAY ~

NOTE TAKERS...

- I titled today's message: “Walking It Out”

~ INTRO ~

NOW... THROUGH OUT THE N.T.

- We read about the changed lives...
  - Of those that followed Jesus.
- Not perfect lives... BUT changed lives!

(2 Cor. 5:17) NLT

*“... anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person.  
The old life is gone; a new life has begun!”*

POSITIONALLY...

- A person who has accepted God's grace is justified (Rom 5).

BUT PRACTICALLY...

- It takes time to grow as a Christian!

FOLLOWERS OF JESUS...

- Will grow in new attitudes / new motives / new habits / new pursuits...
  - And even new friendships.

THE LIFE OF CHRIST IS FORMED IN US THRU SANCTIFICATION.

- It's the practical experience of learning to be separated unto God!
  - We yield our lives to Him.

(Rom. 12:2-a) NLT

*“Don't copy the behavior and customs of the world,  
but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.”*

TODAY...

1 Peter 4:1-11  
“Hope In A Hostile World”

- Gives a few pointed directions for Christians to live out.

~ STUDY ~

**HERE’S WHAT THE TEXT SAYS:**

- (1 Peter 4:1-3) NKJV

**HERE’S WHAT WE CAN LEARN:**

**IDEA #1 – CHANGE OF VISION** (vv.1-3)

IN (v.1)...

- Peter takes us to the previous chapter (1 Peter 3:18) NLT
  - And gives us the example of Jesus to follow.

HE SAYS...

- (v.1-b) “*arm yourself...*”
  - Which carries the idea of a soldier putting on his armor.

\*[My Police days story / muscle memory 2,000 time]

(Eph. 6:13) NLT...

*“... put on every piece of God’s armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle, you will still be standing firm.”*

**POINT BEING...**

- It’s the application of God’s truth...
  - Lived out in our lives...
    - That’s how we stand against the pressure!

SO... THE CHURCH IS TO MIMIC...

- Christ’s attitude and determination...
  - By resist ways that are contrary to God’s word.

(vv.2-3)

PETER SAYS... LISTEN...

- If God has saved you from your sin...

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- Then there should be a definite change in the way you live!

CHURCH... WE'RE TO UNDERSTAND...

- That as a Christian I'm to stop sleeping with my boyfriend / girlfriend...
  - I'm to stop getting drunk with my buddies...
  - I'm to stop watching porn for entertainment...
  - I'm to drop foul language as my regular speech...
  - I'm to stop making excuses...
  - I'm to stop gossiping...
  - I'm to stop being a busybody!

TO SOME OF YOU...

- This may sound elementary!
  - But to others you're just learning to follow Jesus.

LET ME STREAMLINE THE CONCEPTS INTO...

**FOUR POINTS:**

- 1) Sin is no longer your master (v.1)
- 2) Stop chasing your own desires (v.2a) NLT
- 3) Live for the will of God (v.2b)
- 4) Stop fighting against God's revealed will – His word (v.3)

**IDEA #2 – MINDSET ADJUSTMENT** (vv.4-6)

NOW...

- As Jesus begins to change you...
  - Your family & friends will start to notice a difference.
- AND at some point...
  - Because you no longer hang out... doing what you once did...
    - They'll get mad at you & talk trash about you!

IF YOU HAVE A CLOSE FAMILY...

- This can come as a real challenge OR even a shock.
  - People you love begin to despise you!

BUT...

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- This is a lesson we have to learn.

LOOK WHAT JESUS SAID...

- (Matt. 10:32-39) NLT

THE POINT IS SIMPLE:

- God doesn't take second place to anybody!

SO...

- If there's something in your life above God...
  - Please understand... God desires for you to subordinate it to Him!
    - (Put it in second place)

\*[ **Think about Abraham & Isaac** ]

**IDEA #3 – STARTS DOING THIS** (vv.7-11)

1<sup>st</sup> ACTION ITEM (v.7) NET

- *Self-controlled & sober-minded*
  - Don't cloud your mind (v.3) was intoxicants
  - Don't let anything get in the way of your prayers...
    - (v.8) is unforgiveness

2<sup>nd</sup> ACTION ITEM (v.8)

- Demonstrate love by making allowances for the faults of others.
  - This is the great test for any Christian...
    - Are we willing to forgive others & make peace?

(Matt. 6:14-15) NLT >>> (Eph. 4:30-32) NKJV

- Bitterness breaks Gods' heart!!!

3<sup>rd</sup> ACTION ITEM (v.9) NLT

- Hospitality without complaining!!!
  - Example: (Proverbs 23:6-8) NKJV

4<sup>th</sup> ACTION ITEM (vv.10-11)

- Use your gift!!!

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- Speaking gifts
- Serving gifts

**DEEPER STUDY:**

- a) Gifts of the Spirit = (Rom. 12:6-8)
- b) Manifestation of the gifts = (1 Cor. 12:7-11)
- c) Role of the gifts = (4:11-12)

**~ IN CLOSING ~**

IF YOU HAVE NOT...

- Accepted the Grace of God in your life...
  - I want to give you an opportunity today!

- 1) If you need a fresh start again...
- 2) If you need to be lifted out of spiritual numbness...
- 3) If you need a fresh perspective in your current season of life...

WOULD YOU RAISE UP YOUR HAND...

- So I can pray for you right now.
  - **We can also see you online as well.**

**~ LET'S PRAY ~**