

Answering Life's Big Questions

A Bible study in 1 Peter



Lesson 4: Why am I here now?
How am I to think?

Review:

Lesson 1 - Peter's emphasis is on God as our
_____.

Lesson 2 - Our fundamental identity is
_____.

Lesson 3 - We are born again to receive
_____.

God could have saved me and immediately transported me to eternal life, to instantly obtain the fullness of the inheritance. Why didn't He do that? Why am I here *now*?

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. (1 Peter 4:10-11)

Why am I here?

I am here so that, in everything in my life, God will be glorified through Jesus Christ.

How do we glorify God in our mind, emotions, body?

For this is a gracious thing, when, *mindful of God*, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. (I Peter 2:19)

We are to glorify God as we live thinking about Him, being mindful of Him in every moment, being constantly aware of His presence in our lives. I am to use my mind to *think* for the glory of God.

Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (1:13)

1. Think _____

2. Think _____

3. Think _____

4. Think _____

5. Think _____ (1:17-19, 2:10)

6. Think _____ (3:8)

7. Think _____ (3:8, 5:5-7)

8. Think _____ (4:1-2, 5:8-9)

9. Think _____ (4:12-13)

10. Think _____ (5:8-9)

Memory verse:

Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (1:13)

Lesson 4 Study Questions

Day 1 - Mindful of God

1. Have you ever said to someone, “What were you thinking?!!?” Read Mark 8:31-38. According to Jesus, what was going on in Peter’s thinking that led Jesus to say, “Get behind me, Satan!”? _____

2. What should have been going on in Peter’s thinking?

3. Jesus implies in these comments that there are two things to do with your mind: Set it on things of man or set it on things of God. How does Colossians 3:1-2 describe the two things we can do with our minds?

4. How does Romans 8:5-6 describe the two things we can do with our minds?

5. How does Romans 8:5-6 describe the results of the two things we can do with our minds?

6. What are some day-to-day, practical ways you can set your mind on the things of God? _____

Day 2 - The Spirit and our minds

Read I Corinthians 2:6-16.

1. Identify how each of the following verses completes the phrase “the _____ of God.”
Verse 7 The _____ of God.
Verse 10 The _____ of God.
Verse 11 The _____ of God.
Verse 16 The _____ of God.
2. Identify in the following verses the descriptions of what the Holy Spirit does.
Verse 10 _____

Verse 11 _____
Verse 12 _____
Verse 13 _____

3. I Corinthians 2:9 is often cited by Christians to make the point that we can't begin to comprehend all that is in store for us in eternity. What verse in this passage indicates that that is a faulty view of what Paul is actually teaching here? _____
4. I Corinthians 2:16 specifies a facet of our inheritance in Christ. What is it? _____
5. Review the main points from Lesson 3. Which facet of our inheritance is this passage in I Corinthians 6 expounding on? _____

6. Philippians 2:1-8 expounds on the mind of Christ that we inherit in our new birth. What two characteristics of the regenerated mind considered in this lesson are the focus of Paul's teaching in Philippians on the mind of Christ? _____

7. According to Philippians 2:1-8, what does having the mind of Christ practically look like? In other words, what should you look for in your life to judge whether or not you are exhibiting the mind of Christ?

Day 3 - Be on guard, stay awake!

1. Mark 14:32-42 recounts a sober event in the life of Peter and Jesus. What characteristics of the regenerated mind considered in this lesson are implied in Jesus' admonition to Peter in verse 38?

2. What were some of the temptations facing Peter that night that Jesus might have been thinking about?

3. Mark 14:37-38 was not the first time Peter had been told to stay awake and watch. In fact, watchfulness is a theme of Jesus' teaching in the previous chapter! In 2-4 words, list the commands of Jesus given in Mark chapter 13:
Verse 9 _____
Verse 23 _____
Verse 33 _____
Verse 35 _____
Verse 37 _____

4. In Mark 13, what in particular was Jesus teaching Peter to be on guard and watching for?
 Verses 5-6 _____
 Verse 9 _____
 Verses 12-13 _____
 Verses 21-23 _____
 Verses 35-37 _____

5. On two other occasions Peter heard Jesus teaching about being watchful and on guard. What is the focus of Jesus' teaching in these passages?

Luke 12:15 _____

Luke 21:34-36 _____

Do you struggle with either of these temptations?
 How can you specifically be more watchful and on guard against them?

Day 4 - The mind in II Peter

1. In his second letter, Peter also had much to say about using your mind to glorify God. What quality of thinking considered in this lesson is Peter's focus in II Peter 1:9, 1:12-13, 3:1-2? _____

In the above verses in II Peter, what is Peter wanting his readers to reflect on?

1:9 _____

1:12-13 _____

3:1-2 _____

2. In II Peter, Peter using the phrase "knowing this" three times. What does he want his readers to know?
 1:19-21 _____

3:3-4 _____

3:15-17 _____

3. What characteristics of the regenerated mind considered in this lesson are suggested by Peter's three statements about knowing?

Day 5 - The mature mind

1. Read Philippians 3:12-16. According to this passage, what does mature thinking consider? What point(s) in this lesson does this description of mature thinking reflect? _____

2. Read I Corinthians 14:20. It would be easy to take this verse out of context in applying its admonition to mature thinking to many situations, but Paul had one particular situation in mind.
 - a. What is Paul talking about in I Corinthians 14?

 - b. What particular truths (part of mature thinking) does Paul stress in the following verses?
14:1 _____
14:12 _____
14:26 _____
14:33 _____
14:40 _____