

“LIVING THE CHRISTIAN LIFE!”

1 PETER Chapter 4

➤ FIVE KEYS FOR THE CHRISTIAN LIFE:

#1- LIVE CHRIST IN YOUR MIND! (v1-6)

(v1-2) *Arm yourselves with the same mind* (Christ our example) How?

- **LOVE GOD WITH ALL YOUR MIND!** - Matthew 22:37-39 - Jesus said to him, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, **and with all your mind.**" This is the first and great commandment.

- **RENEW YOUR MIND!** - Romans 12:2 - And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by **the renewing of your mind,** that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

- **HAVE A “WHATEVER” MIND SET!** - Philippians 4:8-9- Finally, brethren, whatever things are **true**, whatever things are **noble**, whatever things are **just**, whatever things are **pure**, whatever things are **lovely**, whatever things are of **good report**, if there is any virtue and if there is anything **praiseworthy**--meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the **God of peace** will be with you.

- **MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!** - 1 Thess 4:10-11- But we urge you, brethren, that you increase more and more; that you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to **mind your own business,**

#2- LIVE CHRIST IN YOUR LIFESTYLE! (v3-6)

(v3-6) List what you're to stop living for: **Lewdness—Lusts—Drunkenness—Revelries—Drinking Parties—Abominable Idolatries!**

(v5-6) Beware of the coming judgment! - Rev 21:7-8- He who overcomes shall **inherit all things,** and I will be his God and he shall be My son. **But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.**"

#3 – LIVE CHRIST IN YOUR RELATIONSHIPS! (v7-11)

(v7) In these last days “**be serious and watchful in your prayers**” for souls and one another! Take your prayer life serious and pray like you’ve never prayed before, we are at **THE END!** Maybe Peter is reflecting upon his moment with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane (Let’s discover in **Matthew 26:36-46.**)

(v8) Above all things have fervent **LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER!** **LOVE WILL COVER A MULTITUDE OF SINS,** YOUR SINS THAT YOU DID AGAINST OTHERS!

(v9) Be **HOSPITABLE** – NO WHINING! Just sing this song, “Make me a servant humble and meek, Make me a servant to those who are weak and may the prayer of my heart always be, make me a servant, make me a servant, make me a servant, TODAY!”

(10) Discover your gift and minister it to one another in the grace of God. (Romans 12; Ephesians 4; 1 Corinthians 12.)

(11a) We must **SPEAK THE ORACLES OF GOD TO ONE ANOTHER;** Wesley wrote, “That one is to declare God’s doctrines as communicated to him by the Spirit of God, in agreement with the Word of God. He is to teach the whole body of divine truth as revealed in the Scriptures. He is to depend upon God and speak in gravity and with authority. He that does not enjoin practical holiness to believers, does not speak as the oracles of God.”

(11b) We are to **MINISTER** with the abilities God gives, that is our time, our talent and yes our tithe.

#4 – LIVE CHRIST IN TRIALS AND TIMES OF SUFFERING! (v12-19)

(v12-13) Fiery trials will try you! **REJOICE IN CHRIST** and look forward to **GLORY!** Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount, *"Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."* (Matthew 5:11-12)

(v14-16) If we are "reproached" by the world for the "**NAME OF CHRIST**" or we "suffer as a Christian" due to persecution we will **GLORIFY GOD** and not be **ASHAMED**; however, if we participate in sinful practices (v15) and experience prosecution and/or persecution then we will be ashamed. Warren Wiersbe writes, "In the furnace of persecution and suffering we often have more light by which we can examine our lives and ministries. The fiery trial is a refining process, by which God removes the dross and purifies us. One day, a fiery judgment will overtake the whole world. Meanwhile, God's judgment begins "at the house of God," the church."

#5 – LIVE CHRIST IN THE HOUSE OF GOD! (v17-19)

(v17-19) How are you today? Has compromise crept into your house, that is your heart? Return to your first **LOVE**, return to your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, recognize your sins and confess them to God (1 John 1:8-10 - *If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*)

➤ **Maybe you have never given your heart to Christ, today is the day of SALVATION!**

Romans 10:9-11 - *That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame."*