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The Outsider's Inner Battle
1 Peter 4:1-11

1 Peter 1:1 *Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, who are chosen...*

The Outsider's Inner Battle:

1 Peter 4:1-2 *Therefore, since Christ has suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same purpose, because he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, ²so as to live the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for the lusts of men, but for the will of God.*

I. The _____ for Your New Life.

1 Peter 4:3-6 *For the time already past is sufficient for you to have carried out the desire of the Gentiles, having pursued a course of sensuality, lusts, drunkenness, carousing, drinking parties and abominable idolatries. ⁴In all this, they are surprised that you do not run with them into the same excesses of dissipation, and they malign you; ⁵but they will give account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. ⁶For the gospel has for this purpose been preached even to those who are dead, that though they are judged in the flesh as men, they may live in the spirit according to the will of God.*

a. The Inner Battle – _____

- Sensuality--that is the pursuit of immoral sexual pleasures.
- Lusts--Base desires of the flesh
- Drunkenness--
- Carousing--pagan festivals
- Drinking parties--
- Abominable idolatries--the worship of gold, gems, creation, not creator

b. The Outer Battle – _____

II. The _____ for Your New Life.

1 Peter 4:7-11 *The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer. ⁸Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹Be hospitable to one another without complaint. ¹⁰As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. ¹¹Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

Four Ways to Live a New Life:

1. Be clear-minded.
2. Keep fervent in your love (agape).
3. Be hospitable.
4. Use your gifts.

Point:

Field Notes: Reflections From Outside

1. Where are you engaged in the inner battle against the "lusts of the Gentiles"? How are you doing?
2. Where are you engaged in the outer battle with those who are drawing you back to your old life?
3. What keeps you from maintaining a clear mind that recognizes the Spiritual realities around you?
4. When have you experienced a fervent love that covers sins? How could you love with that kind of love?
5. When have you experienced Christian hospitality? How have you shown it?



If you'd like to talk personally and confidentially w/Pastor Todd about your relationship with Christ, please email pastortodd@thevineva.org or call 703-573-5836 to set up an appointment.