



HEALING HIDDEN WOUNDS

UNCOMMON PURSUITS: EPISODE 1 OF 10

1 Peter 4:1-11

¹³ Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because whoever suffers in the body is done with sin. ² As a result, they do not live the rest of their earthly lives for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God. ³ For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do—living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. ⁴ They are surprised that you do not join them in their reckless, wild living, and they heap abuse on you. ⁵ But they will have to give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. ⁶ For this is the reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead, so that they might be judged according to human standards in regard to the body, but live according to God in regard to the spirit. ⁷ The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray. ⁸ Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. ⁹ Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰ Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. ¹¹ If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

1. FORGIVE THE OFFENDER

Since Christ suffered while he was in his body, strengthen yourselves with the same way of thinking Christ had...I Peter 4:1 (NCV)

Jesus said, Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing. Luke 23:34

Watch out that no bitterness takes root among you, for as it springs up it causes deep trouble, hurting many in their spiritual lives. Hebrews 12:15 (LB)

You are only hurting yourself with your anger! Job 18:4 (GN)

2. FOCUS ON GOD

From now on, live the rest of your earthly lives controlled by God's will, not by human desires. I Peter 4:2 (GN)

When Jesus suffered, he did not threaten to get even; he left his case in the hands of God who always judges fairly. I Peter 2:23 (LB)

You (God) know how troubled I am; you have kept a record of my fears. Psalms 56:8 (GN)

May the god of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Rom 15:13

3. FACE MY FUTURE

Put your heart right, reach out to God ... then face the world again, firm and courageous. Then all your troubles will fade from your memory, like floods that are past and remembered no more. Job 11:13-16 (GN)

The LORD hears good people when they cry out to him, and he saves them from all their troubles. Psalms 34:17 (NCV)

In the past you wasted too much time doing what nonbelievers enjoy; sexual sins, evil desires, drunkenness, wild and drunken parties... I Peter 4:3 (NCV)

4. FIND A SUPPORTING RELATIONSHIP

Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another... I Peter 4:8-9

Two people are better than one... If one falls down, the other can help him up. Eccl. 4:9 (NCV)

God has given each of you special abilities; be sure to use them to help each other, passing on to others God's ... blessings. I Pet. 4:10 (LB)

Come to me if you are weary and overburdened and I will give you rest. Matt. 11:28

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