

**NOTES | First Peter | Built for More**  
**May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**Compelled Church, Pastor Med Barr**

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**Text: 1 Peter 1:13-16**

<sup>13</sup>Therefore, preparing your minds for action,<sup>[a]</sup> and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup>As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, <sup>15</sup>but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, <sup>16</sup>since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”

**Main Point:** Prepare your mind, surrender your will, and your life will follow.

**Central Idea:** Spiritual alertness, daily obedience, and the pursuit of holiness are not passive—they require intentional preparation and surrender. When our minds are focused and our wills surrendered, our lives reflect the holiness of the God who called us.

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**Sermon Outline**

I. Readiness is our secret weapon. Focus is the first step to victory (To Holiness). (v.13)

- Be mentally alert, sober-minded, and hope-filled.
- Don't coast spiritually—engage your faith daily.
- Illustration: Driving off-course when mentally disengaged.

II. Surrendered hearts follow sacred paths. True strength begins with obedience. (v.14)

- Obedience comes from knowing your identity as a child of God.
- Don't slip back into former ways.
- Illustration: Adopted orphan still living like he's unloved.

III. Holiness isn't perfection, it's direction. It's God's standard and our pursuit. (v.15–16)

- Holiness = being set apart, not perfect.
  - We represent God everywhere, not just at church.
  - Illustration: The athlete who wears the team jersey.
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## **Engage**

1. Have you ever found yourself mentally “checked out” at a critical moment? What happened?
2. What does “spiritual cruise control” look like in someone’s daily life? Have you ever experienced it?

## **Explore (Digging into the Text)**

3. Read 1 Peter 1:13. What do you think it means to “prepare your minds for action”?
4. Why does Peter link a prepared mind with hope in Jesus’ return? How does that connection influence your daily decisions?
5. In verse 14, Peter warns against conforming to “former ignorance.” What are some past patterns God has helped you overcome—or is still helping you with?
6. Peter says, “Be holy, for I am holy.” What comes to mind when you hear the word “holy”? How does that compare with how God defines it in Scripture?

## **Apply (Personal Reflection & Application)**

7. What’s one way you can mentally or spiritually “gird up your loins” this week to be ready for what God might call you to?
8. Are there any habits or comforts in your life right now that might be numbing or distracting you from spiritual growth?
9. What’s something God may be asking you to start—or stop—doing right now? How are you responding?
10. Which of these do you need to focus on more: Alertness, Obedience, or Holiness? Why?

## **Act (Challenge & Prayer Focus)**

11. What daily or weekly habit could you begin practicing this week that will help you pursue holiness intentionally? (e.g., Scripture reading, silence & solitude, Sabbath, accountability, etc.)