Teach Us to Number Our Days

1 Peter 4:1-11

Equipped with the Mind of Christ

(1 Peter 4:1)

- The war is over, but the battle rages on
- Putting sin behind us, since it no longer controls us

Pursuing the Will of God Today

(1 Peter 4:1-6)

- Making the best of the time we've been given
- Knowing those who oppose God's people are <u>opposing God</u> Himself
- We preach the Gospel because judgment is coming

Fighting in the Present with the Future in Mind (1 Peter 4:7-11a)

- Jesus will return. What kind of people should we be while we wait?
 - It should inform the <u>priorities of our prayers</u>
 - It should shape our interactions with others
- The hopeful and happy anticipation of Christ's return will produce a loving community of believers

"...that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

To Him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen."

For Life Group Discussion

1st Peter 4:1-11

- 1. Read Psalms 39:4 and 90:12. In what ways do we fail to "number our days"? How can numbering our days make us wiser?
- 2. Read 1 Pet 2:24, 1 Pet 4:1; and Rom 6:8-12. To what level are you aware that you have been freed from the control of sin? Have you ever experienced victory from a sin that enslaved you in the past?
- 3. Read 1 Pet 4:1-2. Why is it better to live according to the will of God than our human passions?
- 4. Read 1 Pet 4:4-5 and Heb 10:31. Does the impending judgment of God influence your drive to share the Gospel? Why or why not?
- 5. Read Acts 1:9-11, 1 Thess 4:16, and 1 Pet 4:7-11. How should the imminent return of Christ affect the way I live my life today? How should it affect the way I pray and the way I interact with others (note the 3 "one anothers" listed in our text)?
- 6. Read 1 Pet 4:10-11. How has God gifted you? How are you using that gift to serve others in the church? Be specific. If you are not, why not? Can a person who is not serving truly say that they are living "for the will of God"?