



August 16, 2009

“Surviving Life: Live Life Today for Tomorrow (4)”

I Peter 1:13-16

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

Getting to know me

1. What did you do as a child that got you in to real trouble? (from Serendipity Bible for Study Groups—SB)
2. What toy or game did you enjoy the most when you were 12 or younger? Would you play with it now if you had it? (SB)
3. How did the story in Pastor Dean’s introduction impact you?
4. What would you say most affects your daily life activities and goals; past events or your hopes for the future?

In to the Bible

1. What do the following verses have to say about the connection of “mind” and our actions? You may need to look at some of these verses in their contexts.

⁹ "And you, my son Solomon, acknowledge the God of your father, and serve him with wholehearted devotion and with a willing mind, for the LORD searches every heart and understands every motive behind the thoughts. If you seek him, he will be found by you; but if you forsake him, he will reject you forever. 1 Chronicles 28:9

²⁷He answered: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" Luke 10:27

⁶The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; Romans 8:6

²Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:2

²⁰You, however, did not come to know Christ that way. ²¹Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. ²²You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Ephesians 4:20-23

2. The word “mind” in 1:13 implies thinking through or reflecting on actions or a moral reflection; as in, “Of what mind are you in this matter?” In a literal rendering, the phrase is “girding up the loins of the mind.” (We might understand this metaphor better by saying, “Roll up the shirtsleeves of your mind.”) What needs to be done to “prepare” our minds?
3. Compare 1:13 with II Peter 3:10-13. How does looking forward to this future affect what you are doing in the present?
3. Look at the passage (1:13-16) again and list the various motivations for holy living. Is there one that speaks to your heart more than another?
4. How does II Peter 1:3-4 help us understand the means by which we can live holy lives?

Application questions

1. What is one thing that you would change in your day-to-day as a result of focusing more on the future event of Jesus’ return to this earth?
2. How different is your past life (before Christ) from where you are now in your spiritual journey?
3. Would you define “holiness” more as an attitude or a set of behaviors?
4. What does it look like in your life to be “holy in all you do?” What might need to change?