

## **Men's Equipping Course/First Peter Bible Study**

### **Week Eight Assignment: 4:1-11**

**From Pastor Scott**

1. Pray before you begin reading, asking God to open up the truths of this passage for you. Now slowly, carefully, out loud, read the passage several times until you feel you have a good grasp of what is being said. Use different translations to get a fuller understanding.
2. The phrase "ceased from sin" in verse 1 is very difficult to interpret. It cannot refer to Jesus because He never sinned. It cannot mean that believers will cease from sinning in this life because that would contradict too many other passages of Scripture. Are there other clues in verses 1-3 as to how this phrase should be interpreted? Note: it likely means that suffering for believers results in ceasing not from sin itself but from some aspect of sin.
3. How has suffering impacted the way you live your Christian life?
4. Based on verses 1-5, describe as many differences between Christians and non-Christians as you can.
5. In verse 7, Peter says, "The end of all things is near." He made this statement almost 2000 years ago, but the end still has not come. Was Peter wrong in his prediction or was he making another point? If so, what was that point? Hint: consider how this statement is connected to the rest of the verse.
6. Does every sin that a fellow believer commits need to be confronted? How does verse 8 help answer this question? Can you give an example of what this looks like?
7. What are the two types of spiritual gifts Paul mentions in verses 10-11? Which type of gift do you lean toward? How are you using that gift?
8. List all the ways God is involved in the exercise of spiritual gifts in verses 10-11. Why do you suppose Peter emphasizes God's role in the exercise of spiritual gifts?