

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

### Week Nine Assignment: 4:12-19

From Pastor Chris

1. Let's look back for a moment. In v.7 Peter reiterates that the end of all things literally "has come near." As we heard from Pastor Scott, this is the idea that Christ could return at any moment. The Rapture of the Church is an imminent event, meaning nothing has to happen on the prophetic calendar before the Rapture. It was imminent in Peter's day and it is imminent in our day. With that in mind, list out the commands of the normal Christian life that Peter mentions in vv.7-11.
2. Now, go back to the list you just created and rate yourself on a scale of 1-10 as to how you are doing on each command, with one being complete failure and 10 being complete perfection. Pick your lowest score and ask the Lord to help you make real change in that area. What should your next step be?
3. Read 4:12-19 several times, using several translations.
4. List all of the commands from vv.12-19. Hint: I count 4 clear commands and 2 implied commands.
5. This passage, I Peter 4:12-19, perhaps more than any other, gets to the heart of this letter and summarizes both content and tone about his main theme of God's grace in the midst of our suffering. Can you summarize the main idea of this text in one sentence? Be ready to share your sentence in small group.
6. Have you ever been surprised by fiery ordeals, sudden trials or death? Why do you think that is?
7. Is there a kind of suffering that has nothing to do with your Christian faith? What's Peter's point in v.15?
8. From this passage only, why do we experience fiery ordeals? What previous verse in I Peter does this remind you of?
9. Why does Peter talk about a gospel to "obey" and that the righteous are saved "with difficulty"? I thought salvation was by grace thru faith and therefore relatively easy. Just believe, right? I thought Christ did all the work and we rest in His work on our behalf. What in the world is going on?
10. Can you think of a cross reference passage that supports and compliments this passage?