

## **Big Idea of 1 Peter 4:1-11**

If you want spiritual victory do the will of God when persecuted and ridiculed.

### **Review: Theme of First Peter**

The believer who can endure persecution for the Lord's sake will make a big difference for the world's sake.

Persecution was local rather than imperial and empire wide.

Question: What does this persecution and/or ridicule look like in the U.S.A. today?

Question: Can anyone give us an example?

I. The will of God is that we not be pressured to revert to our old life styles. vss. 1-6

OR

The will of God us that we not be pressured to live as though we have not received Jesus. vss.1-6

Question: Look back at 1 Peter 3:15,16. How does that portion of Peter's letter help us with the passage we are currently looking at?

Question: What parts of your life might cause an unbeliever to shrug his or her shoulders at your claim to be a follower of Christ?

II. The will of God is that we maintain a Christ-like life style. vss. 7-11b

OR

The will of God is that we be like Jesus

The will of God is that practice what we preach

The will of God is that we live and grow in godliness and holiness

Question: Read through vss. 7-11 again. Notice beginning in verse eight that Peter asks of believers that they use their spiritual gifts well. Who exemplified these gifts perfectly? How does developing our willingness to serve demonstrate Jesus to others? How can we grow closer to Jesus so that we can serve better?

Question: How much of your life really looks like Jesus?

III. The will of God is that our lives give him praise and glory. vs. 11 c, d

This does not require much discussion...just do it.

Question: Who can tell us the purpose statement for W.S.C.C.?

Our purpose is to glorify God by \_\_\_\_\_

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Question: How can we fulfill this purpose?

Question: What parts of your life fail to give God praise and glory?