

Study Hints for Thinking Further
International Bible Lessons

1 Peter 4:1-11

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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Five Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be answers to the discussion questions, but hints a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class.

Five Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. When we are tempted to do wrong, what are some of the actions we can take?

We can remind ourselves of what the Bible teaches about sin and the way of escape that Jesus will make possible through faith in Him. We can remind ourselves that God expects us to live “no longer by human desires but by the will of God.” We can pray for the Holy Spirit to help us change from the inside out and become a Christ-like person.

2. Why do some people curse you or other Christians or make life difficult for many Christians?

Perhaps they curse you because as a Christian you will not join them in their life of sin. They may instinctively or intuitively know that you will not do the same things they do, and so they will find ways to put you down or make you feel bad. Your own good life in the power of the Holy Spirit, whether you say anything or not, may make them feel condemned or guilty for their bad way of living. Their conscience may condemn them when they look at your way of life.

3. If sinners hear the good news of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ and refuse to turn from their sins and to Jesus Christ for salvation from their sins; and instead they keep sinning and even curse Christians for living apart from a life of sin, what does Peter say about their future?

See 1 Peter 4:5

4. What did Peter say Christians need to do for the sake of their prayers?

See 1 Peter 4:7

5. In what ways might obeying 1 Peter 4:11 make a difference?

Christians do not curse God or others, but they seek to speak with loving-kindness as Jesus would do. Christians would serve beyond their limited human abilities and strength and pray to God for more talents and strength to serve Him and others; then, they would pray that others could see the work of Jesus Christ in their lives and glorify Jesus Christ for the talents and strength that He has given to and through them to benefit others.

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