

**Title: Leaving Behind Old Ways 1 Peter 3:8-12/ Psalm 34**

**1 Peter 3:8, 9-12**

Centrality of Christ 1 Peter 1:1-3:6 First half Peter- visually absorbed

Centrality of Christ 1 Peter 3:6-5:14 Second half Peter-- visually absorbed

Are we learning to relate Christ to all aspects of our obedience to Christ like Peter?

**Review of what we are called to live like:**

3:8 Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. --*Do you have an example from your life?*

**Scripture 1 Peter 3:9-12**

**1Pet. 3:9** Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. **10** For, "Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech.

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11 He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it. 12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

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**Recognizing the defiling *pattern* of our past lives, corporately and individually**

**Globally:** Churches that Peter addressed in the region of what we called Turkey all presume this pattern (see 2:1 rid yourselves of all... and 4:3 you've spent enough time...) *Have you seen patterns in your life that come from your previous life outside of Christ?*

**Patterns we inherit**

(1) That come from our "flesh" (2) From our forefathers, and peers

(3) Using our "freedoms" to hide the old pattern which to some extent may remain

**Dealing with specifics --examples**

(1) Verbal vengeance (2) Actual acts of vengeance (3) Deceitful speech

(4) Sexual immorality --Men acting like "Play **Boys**", rather than covenantally faithful and pure

**Men** (5) Drunkenness or drug addiction (New Hampshire) (6) Idolatry what we worship

**How to rid ourselves of these things**

**Confessing our sins to God-** not just words but inner agreement 1 John 1:9 Realizing you cannot rid yourself of these, you need God to help- "Apart from Me you can do nothing"

**Confessing our sins to others as appropriate--** James 5:16 Beware of the overly sensitive conscience

**\*\*Pursuing peace!** (3:11), you have to think of good in others, it takes keeping a record of the good

**Tasting and experiencing that God is Good!**

**Cutting off the bridges that led to temptation** Rev. 18:4 Come out from her (Babylon the Great)/ Come out & be separate 2 Cor. 6:17-18

**Daily Prayer:** Lead us not into temptation Matthew 6

**Wisdom from God-** Proverbs -- eg. *Do not go near her house Prov. 5, keep to a path far from her*

**Establishing good fellowship** (worship) with God

**Accountability relationships with God's people** (being honest before God)

**Establishing new Godly habits:** -- *too much idle time is the devil's workshop*

**Good deeds-** pure religion and undefiled -James

**Dealing with Idolatry** --what you actually worship

**Called to Bless (1 Peter 3: )--** *How would you bless someone who spoke evil of you etc.?*

**Congregational Prayer:**

Gracious Father in Heaven,

Deliver us from the dark patterns of our past, patterns that arise from our flesh, patterns that were handed down to us by our forefathers, patterns we learned from friends and colleagues in this fallen world. Help us to see any specific areas we need to focus on: paying evil for evil, speaking ill of others, sexual impurity,

Help us to bless others even as you have called us into your blessing.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.