"What Is The Christian Life?"

Lesson Text: 1 Peter 4:15-19.

I. The Christian Life Is A Surrounded Life.

- Job 1:10. God Did Not Deny This Hedge.
- God Allowed The Devil To Try Him, But Kept A Hedge To Protect His Life.
- What Kind Of Hedge Around Job? Blessings? Prosperity?
- What Kind Of Hedge Surrounds Us?
 - Grace, Mercy, Love, & Life.
 - Deuteronomy 7:9. Titus 3:4-7; 1 Timothy 6:17; John 10:10.
 - Surrounded By God's Protection- 1 Peter 1:3-6.
 - Surrounded By The Faithful- Hebrews 12:1 (See Hebrews 11:1-40).
- Can We Desire To Leave? Yes, But Why Would We Want To? 1 Peter 2:2-3; Hebrews 6:4-6.

II. The Christian Life Is A Spiritual Life.

- 1 Peter 4:15 Those Are Carnal Actions And Behaviors...
- Christ Calls Us To Be Spiritual- Colossians 1:9-10.
- To Be Spiritual, We Have To Stop Thinking Carnally. Romans 8:5-9.
- <u>Carnal Thinking</u>: "Life Is Short, So Live Life To The Fullest!" "You Only Go Around Once, Grab All You Can!" "Let Us Eat And Drink, For Tomorrow We Die!" (1 Corinthians 15:32; Luke 12:19).
- <u>Spiritual Thinking</u>: "I'm Serving Others, Not Myself." "This World Is Not My Home." "I Am Living For Eternal Things, Not The Temporary." (Philippians 3:20; 2 Corinthians 4:18).
- We Do This By Having the Fruit Of The Spirit- Galatians 5:22-24.

III. The Christian Life Is A Serving Life.

- Where And How Do We Serve?
 - Acts 27:23. What Did Paul Do In His Service? Romans 15:16.
 - We Serve By Spreading The Gospel- Acts 4:29; Acts 16:17.
 - We Serve By Helping One Another- Matthew 10:42; Galatians 6:10.
 - By Fulfilling Our Duties To One Another- Galatians 6:2; 1 Thessalonians 3:12; James 5:16; 1 Thessalonians 5:11 (ESV).
 - We Serve By Worshipping God- Romans 1:9. (KJB "Worship").
 - Anna, A Great Example Of Devoted Service- Luke 2:36-37.
 - Dorcas, Also A Great Example! Acts 9:36-39.

IV. The Christian Life Is A Happy & Joyful Life.

- God's People Ought To Be The Happiest On Earth! Psalm 146:5.
- Especially, In The Christian Age! Philippians 4:4; 1 Thessalonians 3:9.
- Even Though We Have Hardships, Pain, And Sorrow Now.... 1 Peter 1:6-9.