

becoming



who

you are

## In Pursuit of God's Will

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1 Peter 4:1-11

Ruthie Kim

### 1 Peter 4:1-11

Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because whoever suffers in the body is done with sin. As a result, they do not live the rest of their earthly lives for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God. For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do—living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. They are surprised that you do not join them in their reckless, wild living, and they heap abuse on you. But they will have to give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. For this is the reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead, so that they might be judged according to human standards in regard to the body, but live according to God in regard to the spirit.

The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray. Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of

sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

## **1 Peter 4:1-2**

Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because whoever suffers in the body is done with sin. As a result, they do not live the rest of their earthly lives for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God.

1. Delayed Pursuit
2. Partial Pursuit
3. Conditional Pursuit
4. Faithful Pursuit

### **1. Delayed Pursuit**

“When you're overthinking, you're pretending you're trying to decide what to do. But you're actually trying to decide how to eliminate the consequences or the risk. So your overthinking is about trying to control rather than choose action. The truth is you don't have control over your outcomes.”

- Erwin McManus

“God clarifies in the midst of obedience, not beforehand.”

- Erwin McManus

*Where are you overthinking your pursuit of God's will?*

### **2. Partial Pursuit**

*What are you holding back from God?*

### **3. Conditional Pursuit**

*What are the circumstances you're waiting to see change before you'll pursue God's will for your life?*

### **4. Faithful Pursuit**

#### **1 Peter 4:1-2**

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#### **John 5:19**

Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.

“Jesus is the obedient one. The center of his life is this obedient relationship with the Father. This may be hard for us to understand because the word obedience has so many negative connotations in our society. It makes us think of authority figures who impose their wills against our desires. It makes us remember unhappy childhood events or hard tasks performed under threats of punishment. But none of this applies to Jesus' obedience. His obedience means a total, fearless listening to his loving Father. Between the Father and the Son there is only love.”

- Henri Nouwen

“Obedience can happen in a moment, but surrender is the posture of a lifetime.”

- Jon Tyson