

Holy Saturday - April 16, 2022

Living for God

[1 Peter 4:1-8](#)

4¹ Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh,^[a] arm yourselves also with the same intention (for whoever has suffered in the flesh has finished with sin),² so as to live for the rest of your earthly life^[b] no longer by human desires but by the will of God.

Being a teen in today's world can be hard. Being a Christian teen can be even harder. There are so many things that demand our time: school, jobs, extracurricular activities, friendships.

Each assumes they are the most important thing in your life, and each has its own idea of how things should be done. It becomes hard to put church first, and when you do, you are often called names like "goody-two-shoes" or "lame." And when you try to live like Jesus has commanded us to do, you eventually get excluded from activities.

Sometimes it might be easier to just give in and forget about being a Christian. But Jesus did not take the easy path. He did unpopular things in the name of the Father, and even willingly laid down his life for our sins.

When I think about that sacrifice it gives me courage to say no to activities that don't respect my Christian values. I'd rather take a bad grade on an assignment than cheat. I dance, and dance can be competitive, but I always try to be kind, encouraging, and a team player.

My friends may be tempted to give in to peer pressure and make fun of someone, and while standing up for someone against your friends can be hard, I try to live by the commandments of Jesus to love one another and to treat others with kindness.

It may be hard to be a Christian teen (or adult) when all the world is telling you "you're no fun" or "you think you're better than everyone else," but in the end all that matters is God.

Knowing He gave His Son to die for us makes any unpopular thing I have to do easier. His Love and His Grace guide me, and that's all that matters.

***Prayer:** Heavenly Father, Today's world can pull us in many different directions, most away from you. Help guide us as we face these challenges so that your will be done here on Earth, through us, in us, and because of us. Amen.*

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