

Engage Your Mind for Christ

1 Peter 1:13-21

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A member of our church took me aside on a Sunday morning. He told me every time he reads 1 Peter he feels like he is sort of choking on the richness of it all. I get it! 1 Peter is thick and heavy, like syrup for the soul. It resists all efforts to make a “light meal” of it. It’s better for us to take it slow; chew on it; savor it and let its richness permeate our hearts and minds.

Last week Pastor Christopher brought us a wonderful message from 1 Peter 1:13-21. This week we’re taking another run at the same passage. Now you know why.

This week we are going to spend more time unpacking the meaning of 1:13 – “Girding up the loins of your mind and being sober minded.” It’s a great image that speaks to a crucial aspect of the Christian faith and life.

Here’s the challenge: engage your mind for Christ – seriously. Staying strong in Christian faith and life isn’t going to be easy. It requires something of us. Peter zeroes in on the intellect. That’s right – the intellect, the mind, how and what you think.

This may seem strange to you at first. We are accustomed to viewing our faith as a matter of the heart. And it IS a matter of the heart. But what about the connection between the heart and the mind? Sometimes we assume that the “mind” part of the Christian faith, the intellectual understanding part, is easy and the hard part is getting it into our hearts. But that’s not the full picture.

The truth is, it takes a whole lot of mental focus and mental energy to grow deep and strong in Christian faith and life. There are all sorts of “assaults” on your thinking that will come your way if you are a true Christ follower. Are you ready? 1 Peter 1 is a powerful call for each of us to exercise our minds 110% for Christ! Are you in?