



Last week we talked about playing the right game...what challenges you to keep playing a game with intensity to win?

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**Living as Strangers takes MTIXE!**

*1 Peter 1:13-16 Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. <sup>14</sup>As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. <sup>15</sup>But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; <sup>16</sup>for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."*

**1. Mental Toughness:**

**a. Mental \_\_\_\_\_**

- *prepare your minds for action*  
Why must we always be "ready for action"?

**b. Mental \_\_\_\_\_**

- *be self-controlled*  
What challenges the control of your thoughts?

**c. Mental \_\_\_\_\_**

- *set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed*  
How does Satan "get in our head"?

**2. Intensity:**

- *14 As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance.*

Why does being a "non-conformist" take great intensity?

- *Ezekiel 11:12 And you will know that I am the Lord, for you have not followed my decrees or kept my laws but have conformed to the standards of the nations around you."*
- *Romans 12:2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.*
- *Romans 8:29 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.*

**3. eXtra Effort:**

- *15 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."*

When do we need extra effort in the game of life?

What does it mean when God calls us to extra effort?

- He \_\_\_\_\_ me
- He \_\_\_\_\_ me
- He wants my \_\_\_\_\_ to shine!

***<sup>10</sup>So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.***

***<sup>11</sup>All who rage against you will surely be ashamed and disgraced; those who oppose you will be as nothing and perish.***

***<sup>12</sup>Though you search for your enemies, you will not find them. Those who wage war against you will be as nothing at all.***

***<sup>13</sup>For I am the LORD, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you. (Isaiah 41:10-13)***