

7. What gift has God given you that you could use to serve others? (Paul provides some gift lists in Romans 12:6-8; 1 Cor. 12:8-10, 28-30.)

8. Evaluate your own attitudes in serving, speaking, offering hospitality, or exercising some other gift. Do 4:10-11 suggest any areas in which you might improve?

Let's Pray:

For our missionaries:

Walfre Estrada, Director of Vida y Esperanza Christian School in Guatemala

Pray for Wally as God continues to teach him how to have a healthy balance between ministry and personal time.

Pray that we would anticipate Christ's glorious return at any time, and live life in light of that (4:7).

Pray that God would give us a quality of love and hospitality that can overlook inconsequential sins and not grumble (4:8-9).

Meditate on the fact that glory and ruling authority (NASB "dominion," NIV "power," 4:11) rightfully belong to Jesus forever. Use these thoughts to tell Him why he is worthy.

Sermon Notes

"Let's Do Suffering ... Together"

1 Peter 4:7-11

November 22, 2015

Introduction:

1. The end of all things _____
(4:7a).

2. The _____ (4:7b-11).

a. _____ (4:7).

b. _____ one another (4:8).

c. _____ to one another (4:9).

d. _____ one another by using your gifts (4:10-11).

3. Why should love (4:8) be top priority for Christians awaiting the end?

Conclusion:

4. How does love cover a multitude of sins? What is the difference between “covering over” sin and excusing sin?

Growth Group Homework

For the week of 11-22-15

Questions adapted from 1 Peter: Life Change Series, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1986, pp. 89-97; Warren W. Wiersbe, Be Hopeful, Victor Books, Wheaton, IL, 1982, p. 152; John MacArthur, 1 & 2 Peter: Courage in Times of Trouble, Thomas Nelson, Nashville, TN, 2007, pp. 37-44; James Galvin, ed., et al., New Testament Lesson Maker, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1992, pp. 315.

Getting Started:

1. When you hear someone say, “The end of the world is near,” how do you usually respond? Why?

How would knowing that Christ’s return was actually going to occur this year change the way you think or act?

5. In Peter’s day there were no decent hotels for ordinary people, so hospitality to traveling Christians was crucial. There were no church buildings, so Christians had to open their homes for meetings. How do you think hospitality differs from entertaining?

What do the demands of hospitality reveal to you about love?

Digging Deeper:

2. READ: 1 Peter 4:7-11. Peter reminds his audience that “the end of all things is near.” Why do you think the traits of clear-mindedness and self-control (4:7) are appropriate if the end of familiar life is imminent?

6. To whom do you find it difficult to offer hospitality? Why?

In what ways can you offer hospitality?