

1ST PETER

Peter continues in this next chapter, urging his readers to serve God and one another even when it is difficult to do so. Take note that his message is very “time-sensitive.”



CHAPTER 4:7-11

⁷ The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. ⁸ Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. ⁹ Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰ Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. ¹¹ If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it 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.

If this is message about the end of time, how could Peter say it was near? Wasn't this letter written almost 2000 years ago?

Why is it important to be “clear-minded” when we pray?

How does love cover sins?

Why would anyone grumble when offering hospitality?

What gifts has God given you? Are you using them to serve?

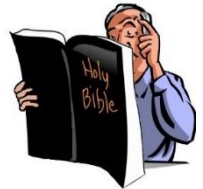
What does it mean to speak as if we're speaking the very words of God?

How does God provide us with strength to serve?

What should be the goal of our service to others?

Points to Ponder

Many people talk about the need to love one another, but Peter says we must do it “deeply.” How is that especially important?



Do you sometimes serve with a bad attitude?

How might our speech be different if we followed Peter's instruction?