STEPPING DEEPER

1 Peter 4:7 – 11
June 7, 2026
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MESSAGE NOTES

The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To Him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. — 1 Peter 4:7 – 11 (ESV)

Step Deeper into God's Grace:

- **By being focussed in prayer**

The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. — 1 Peter 4:7 (ESV)

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. — Romans 12:12 (NIV)

- **By loving sacrificially**

Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. — 1 Peter 4:8 – 9 (ESV)

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: ... — 1 Peter 4:10 (ESV)

- **By serving intentionally**

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To Him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. — 1 Peter 4:7-11 (ESV)

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, … — 1 Peter 3:18 (ESV)

MESSAGE SUMMARY

In 1 Peter 4:7-11, Peter calls believers to live with spiritual focus and purpose in light of Christ's return. Rather than drifting through life, followers of Jesus are invited to step deeper into God's grace by drawing near to Him in prayer, loving one another sacrificially, and serving intentionally with the gifts He has given. Because of Christ's death and resurrection, we have been brought near to God, covered by His love, and empowered by His Spirit. As we use our gifts to serve others, God's varied grace is displayed through the church, and His glory is magnified in the world.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Use as many or as few of these questions as are helpful for your group or family discussion.

- Discussion Starter: When have you experienced being "in the zone," whether in sports, work, a hobby, parenting, ministry, or some other area of life? What did it feel like, and what helped you stay focused?

- Read 1 Peter 4:7-11 together. Peter begins by saying, "The end of all things is at hand." What do you think He means by that? Why does he connect Christ's return with prayer instead of fear or speculation?

- What tends to distract you from prayer, and what helps you step deeper into your life in Christ?

- Read 1 Peter 4:8-9. Why do you think Peter places love above everything else he mentions in this passage?

- What is one relationship where God may be inviting you to move from grumbling, frustration, or distance toward earnest love? How might you step deeper into God's grace in that situation?

- Read John 13:34-35. How does Jesus' command to love one another help us understand Peter's words about love covering a multitude of sins? In what ways does the cross become the ultimate example of sacrificial love?

- What gift, strength, or life experience has God given you that you might use more intentionally to serve others in this season?

- Which of these truths do you most need to remember right now:
  - I can draw near in prayer.
  - I am covered by Christ's love.
  - God can use me to serve others.

  Why?

- What is one area where you want to step deeper with God this week, and how can we pray for you?