

Living for the Deadline 1 Peter 4:11-17

1 Peter 4:11-17 (NIV)

The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. 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.

2 Peter 3:8-9

"But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

I. Live Urgently

Verse 7 – "The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray."

"... be clear-headed and disciplined for prayer." - HCSB

II. Love Deeply

Verse 8-9 – "Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling."

"Love each other as if your life depended on it." - the Message

• A Forgiving Love

The Four Promises of Forgiveness

- ✓ "I will not dwell on it."
- ✓ "I will not bring it up and use it against you."
- ✓ "I will not talk to others about it."
- ✓ "I will not let it hinder our personal relationship."
- A Hospitable Love

Hebrews 13:2 (NIV)

"Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it."

• A Contented Love

Philippians 2:14-15 (NIV)

"Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe."

III. Serve Faithfully

Verse 10-11 – "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. 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.

Rick Warren

"Abraham was old, Jacob was insecure...Joseph was abused, Moses stuttered, Samson was codependent, Rahab was immoral, David had an affair and all kinds of family problems, Elijah was suicidal, Jeremiah was depressed, Jonah was reluctant, Naomi was a widow...Peter was impulsive and hottempered, Martha worried a lot...Thomas had doubts, Paul had poor health, and Timothy was timid. That is quite a variety of misfits, but God used each of them in his service. He will use you, too, if you stop making excuses."