

Joyful Life Bible Studies

I PETER 4:7-11

Lesson 14

FIRST DAY: Review and Overview

1. Review I Peter 4:1-6. How has last week's lesson or lecture affected the way you want to *live the rest of your time*?
2. If you knew the Lord was coming today, what would you want to be doing? Every verse in our study this week reveals what the Lord wants us to do while we await His return. Read I Peter 7-11. Record an instruction or exhortation that stands out to you today and tell why.
3. Begin your study by writing a prayer to the Lord expressing your desire to learn and grow through your time in His Word. Ask Him also to enable you to apply what you learn. Write your prayer here.

*Take ye heed,
watch and pray:
for ye know not when the time is.*
Mark 13:33

SECOND DAY: Read I Peter 4:7

1. I Peter 4:7a is a wake-up call for all of us. Seriously consider Peter's declaration as you print verse 7a in all caps.
 - a. *The end* refers to the coming of the Lord and *at hand* means near. Within a short time after writing this letter Peter's earthly life ended. Pastor Chuck says: *We all live one breath away from eternity.* What helps you live each day with the expectation of seeing Jesus?

 - b. What understanding does II Peter 3:8,9 give you concerning His coming?


2. Knowing that *the end of all things is at hand*, what does I Peter 4:7b tell us we should be doing?
 - a. Think about Paul's warning and instruction concerning Christ's return and summarize what you learn from the following verses:
 - (1.) Romans 13:11-14

 - (2.) I Thessalonians 5:6-8

 - (3.) Mark 13:33

3. How do the verses in today's study speak to you personally as you wait for His return?

4. What concerns come to mind when you realize *the end of all things is at hand*? Follow the instruction in I Peter 4:7c and commit your concerns to the Lord. Write your prayer here.

*Soon and very soon
we are going to see the King!*
-selected 

THIRD DAY: Read I Peter 4:8,9

1. Jesus is coming soon! The awareness of this should affect our relationships. Peter addressed this in I Peter 4:8. What did he say?
 - a. The word *charity* means *love*. What dimension does the word *ferovent* give to this exhortation? (See also I Peter 1:22b.)

2. Consider the importance of *love* through Peter's statement: *above all things*. Summarize what the following verses reveal about this:
 - a. Matthew 22:36-40

 - b. I Corinthians 13:(4-8a)13

 - c. I John 4:7,8

 - d. *Love* is demonstrated through action. Suggest a few ways we can show *love*.

3. Peter quoted Proverbs 10:12b in I Peter 4:8b. Observe verse 8 from the Amplified Bible: *Above all things have intense and unfailing love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins – forgives and disregards the offenses of others*. What influence would this kind of love have on our relationships?

4. In what practical way are believers encouraged to love one another according to I Peter 4:9?
 - a. Notice the attitude in which this should be done. Why is this so important?

FOURTH DAY: Read I Peter 4:10

1. Until Christ returns every believer needs to know and apply the instruction given in I Peter 4:10. Verse 10 not only has clear application for individual believers but when applied will have a direct effect on the local church. Think about this as you complete the following phrases from verse 10:
 - a. *As every man*
 - b. *even so*
 - c. *as good*

2. God equips each believer with spiritual gifts or talents to serve Him and others. In I Peter 4:10a the article *the* before the word *gift* should be *a*. From the following scriptures list a few of the specific gifts that are mentioned:
 - a. Romans 12:6-8

 - b. I Corinthians 12:8-11

 - c. Ephesians 4:11

 - d. What important truth do you learn about spiritual gifts from I Corinthians 13:1-3?

3. Believers are to use their gifts to *minister the same one to another* (I Peter 4:10). The word *minister* means *serve*. Why are we to serve one another in this way? Answer from Ephesians 4:12,13.

4. Focus on the phrase in I Peter 4:10b: *as good stewards of the manifold grace of God*. A *steward* was a servant to whom his master entrusted everything concerning his household. What do you learn about *stewards* from I Corinthians 4:2?

Advanced Students: Write a brief account of Jesus' parable in Matthew 25:14-29.

5. How has today's study spoken to you about using the talents or gifts God has given to you?

By love serve one another.
Galatians 5:13b

FIFTH DAY: Read I Peter 4:11

1. In I Peter 4:11 Peter continued his instruction concerning spiritual gifts. Observe this by completing the following phrases from verse 11a:

a. *If any man speak*

b. *if any man minister (serve)*

(1.) Why is it important to remember this as we serve?

2. Consider the ultimate purpose for Christian ministry by filling in the blanks from I Peter 4:11c:


*that _____ in _____ may be _____ through _____
_____, to Whom be _____ and _____ for ever and ever. Amen.*

a. How does this verse speak to you about the motive you should have as you serve others?

(1.) What can we do to insure that the glory goes to God?

3. How is God glorified according to Matthew 5:16?

4. Focus once more on the phrase: *that God in **all things** may be glorified.* How can we keep this perspective in everything we do?

*In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In my life, Lord, be glorified today.
In Your Church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In Your Church, Lord, be glorified today!*
-selected 

SIXTH DAY: Review I Peter 4:7-11

1. In light of I Peter 4:7a, what are you doing to be ready for the Lord's return?

2. Recall something you learned through your study of I Peter 4:7-9 about:
 - a. *prayer*

 - b. *love*

 - c. *hospitality*

3. Write a brief comment about the following phrases from I Peter 4:10,11:
 - a. *minister one to another*

 - b. *as good stewards*

 - c. *do it as of the ability which God giveth*

4. In what way has the practical instruction in this week's lesson challenged or encouraged you?

5. In response to the closing declaration of I Peter 4:11, complete this lesson with praise. In your own words *ascribe to the Lord the glory due His Name* (Psalm 29:2 NIV). Write your praise here.

*To the only wise God our Saviour,
be glory and majesty, dominion and power,
both now and ever. Amen.*
Jude 25