

## Women's Bible Study of I and II Peter

### Lesson 14 / I Peter 4:7-11

#### Pray, Love, Serve / Study Questions

Pray for the Lord to guide you through this week's lesson.

Read I Peter 4:7-11

1. In verse 7 Peter reminds us that "the end of all things is near." What is he referring to? Matt. 24:37-44, II Thess. 1:10, Col. 3:4 \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. Using Scripture write down **some** of what we know about Christ's return. I Thess. 5:1-6, II Thess. 1:6-10, I Peter 4:5, II Cor. 5:10, I Cor. 3:10-15, 15:51-57  
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3. In light of the above truths, what are we instructed to be? I Peter 4:7 \_\_\_\_\_  
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4. At the heart of sound judgment is a mature and godly mindset. It means we are under control, not carried away by an errant view of self, or under undue emotion or uncontrolled passion. (Macarthur, Grudem) What are some practical ways we can maintain sound judgment? Prov. 4:23, Rom. 12:1-3, Matt. 6:33, 2 Cor. 10:5, Psalm 119:97 \_\_\_\_\_  
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Write down some specific ways or times when you are most tempted to abandon sound judgment? What wrong thoughts are you focused on during in these times? \_\_\_\_\_

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In what ways could you seek to bring your thought life under the Spirit's control the next time this happens? \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Being of sober spirit, not only forbids drunkenness, but goes a step further and forbids **any** intoxication of the mind that inhibits spiritual alertness. Using Scripture write down some of the worldly fixations and distractions that can inhibit our spiritual alertness. Mark 4:19, Prov. 29:25, I Tim. 2:9, 5:13, Luke 10: 38-42, Rom. 1:25, I John 2:15-16 \_\_\_\_\_

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What types of distractions tend to inhibit your spiritual alertness most easily? \_\_\_\_\_

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6. The purpose of maintaining sound judgment and a sober spirit is so that we can be devoted to prayer. Explain the relationship between godly thinking/behaving and an effective prayer life. What tends to happen to prayer when our mind is set on the temporal rather than the eternal? Matt. 6:5-13 I John 5:14-15\_\_\_\_\_

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7. The Scriptures always uphold love as the preeminent virtue. Peter expresses this sentiment as well in vs. 8. What does it look like to be fervent in love? Use Scripture to support your answer. \_\_\_\_\_

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8. Why do you think Peter emphasizes love for the brethren here over love for the lost? John 13:34-35\_\_\_\_\_

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How is loving the brethren also a way we love the lost? Can we love the lost effectively if we disregard the body of Christ? Why or why not? John 17:20-23 \_\_\_\_\_

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9. Biblical love, by nature, always places the ***spiritual good*** of another ahead of selfish desires, and is willing to overlook, forgive, and cover personal offenses. Jesus embodied this. How did Jesus cover sin, but not excuse sin? Rom. 5:8, Isaiah 53:4-6, I Cor. 13:4-6\_\_\_\_\_

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10. Wayne Grudem, commenting on verse 8 says, *“Where love abounds in a fellowship of Christians, many small offenses, and even some large ones, are readily overlooked and forgotten. But where love is lacking, every word is viewed with suspicion, every action is liable to misunderstanding, and conflicts abound.”* Do you agree? How do you balance the responsibility to speak truth, but also show grace? Use Scripture to support your answer. \_\_\_\_\_

11. Fervent love finds practical expression in showing hospitality. What does biblical hospitality look like? Gen. 18:1-2, Deut. 14:29, Matt. 25:34-36, Heb. 13:2, I Peter 4:9 \_\_\_\_\_

12. How can grumbling (vs. 9) undermine a godly witness? Phil. 2:14-15 \_\_\_\_\_

13. Fervent love is also expressed in using our spiritual gifts. MacArthur says, *“Not to use our spiritual gifts is an affront to God’s wisdom, a rebuff of his love and grace, and a loss to his church.”* Have you ever doubted you had a spiritual gift or resented the one you had? What lies were you believing about that? \_\_\_\_\_

14. Paul tells Timothy in 2 Tim. 1:6 “to fan into flame the gift of God.” What does this mean? How might God want you to apply this to your own life?

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15. Vs 10 says our spiritual gifts are varied (multifaceted, have different aspects and kinds) just as God’s grace is, and are stewarded to us to be used for God’s glory. How should the concept of stewardship shape our service within the body of Christ? Matt. 25:14-30

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How does knowing the end is near motivate you to use your gift? 2 Cor. 5:10, I Cor. 3:10-15, 4:1-2

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16. Peter implies that there are two main categories of gifts: speaking gifts and serving gifts. With a speaking gift, what are we told to remember? Vs11

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With a serving gift what are we told to remember?

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Why are these admonitions important? What can be our tendency?

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17. Lest we forget the “big picture,” Peter reminds us once again the reason for a surrendered life of service. What is it? Vs 11

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