

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. Amen. 1 Peter 4:7-11 (NIV)

Powerfully Used By Me

Have I richly blessed your life? Have I given you many gifts and talents and abilities and resources? Yes, you have richly blessed my life far beyond what I could have hoped for, dreamed of, or even imagined. For all that you have given to me I am thankful and grateful. You have lovingly and lavishly poured out your kindness and mercy and love upon me. **It is good that you are fully aware of how I have richly blessed your life. It is even better, and very good, that you are exceedingly grateful and thankful for how I have lovingly and lavishly poured out my kindness and mercy and love upon you. Now, there is something still yet better.** What could that be? **Let me ask you a question.** I'm listening attentively to you. **Have I richly blessed you with gifts and talents and abilities and resources solely for your own benefit?** That is a very easy question to which I would say, certainly not. **Why is that?** It would not be pleasing to you if I were to tight fistedly hold on to all that you have given to me. **What do I want you to do with all the gifts and talents and resources and abilities I have given to you?** You want me to share them with others. You want me to lovingly, and lavishly, serve others with all that you have given to me. You want others to know that they are experiencing the grace of God by how you are working in and through me. You want others to see your light and life shining and living out through my life. You want me to be your hands and feet. You want me to think and speak and act like you. You want others to be drawn to you through my life. You want me to bear fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name as I serve others with all that you have given to me. **Yes, I do. What do you want?** I want to live to please you. I want to know and do your will. I want to someday hear you say that I did I good job loving and serving you and others. I want to know that I have been powerfully used by you in this life that you have given to me. **That is very good and so you shall know that you have been powerfully used by me.** Thank you, Lord.

Lord, I know that my time on this earth is short. Someday soon, I will be with you in heaven. I would like to give a good report. I want to bear fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. Help me to lovingly and lavishly use all my gifts to serve others. Amen

The Compassionate Life

Use Whatever Gift

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. Amen.

NIV

1 Peter 4:7-11

The Compassionate Life

Received A Gift

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.

ESV

1 Peter 4:7-11

The Compassionate Life

Given Each Of You A Gift

The end of the world is coming soon. Therefore, be earnest and disciplined in your prayers. Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins. Cheerfully share your home with those who need a meal or a place to stay. God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. Do you have the gift of speaking? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Do you have the gift of helping others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen.

NLT

1 Peter 4:7-11

The Compassionate Life

Received A Gift

But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers. And above all things have fervent love for one another, for "love will cover a multitude of sins." Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

NKJV

1 Peter 4:7-11

The Compassionate Life

Whatever Gift

The end of all things is near; therefore be serious and discipline yourselves for the sake of your prayers. Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

NRSV

1 Peter 4:7-11

The Compassionate Life

Things God Gave You

Everything in the world is about to be wrapped up, so take nothing for granted. Stay wide-awake in prayer. Most of all, love each other as if your life depended on it. Love makes up for practically anything. Be quick to give a meal to the hungry, a bed to the homeless—cheerfully. Be generous with the different things God gave you, passing them around so all get in on it: if words, let it be God's words; if help, let it be God's hearty help. That way, God's bright presence will be evident in everything through Jesus, and he'll get all the credit as the One mighty in everything—encore to the end of time. Oh, yes!

MSG

1 Peter 4:7-11

The Compassionate Life

Received A Gift

But the end and culmination of all things has now come near; keep sound minded and self-restrained and alert therefore for [the practice of] prayer. Above all things have intense and unflinching love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins [forgives and disregards the offenses of others]. Practice hospitality to one another [those of the household of faith]. [Be hospitable, be a lover of strangers, with brotherly affection for the unknown guests, the foreigners, the poor, and all other who come your way who are of Christ's body.] And [in each instance] do it ungrudgingly [cordially and graciously, without complaining but as representing Him]. As each of you has received a gift [a particular spiritual talent, a gracious divine endowment], employ it for one another as [best] good trustees of God's many-sided grace [faithful stewards of the extremely diverse powers and gifts granted to Christians by unmerited favor]. Whoever speaks, [let him do it as one who utters] oracles of God; whoever renders service, [let him do it] as with the strength which God furnishes abundantly, so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ [the Messiah]. To Him be the glory and dominion forever and ever [through endless ages]. Amen [so be it].

AMP

1 Peter 4:7-11

The Compassionate Life

Some Special Abilities

The end of the world is coming soon. Therefore be earnest, thoughtful men of prayer. Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love makes up for many of your faults. Cheerfully share your home with those who need a meal or a place to stay for the night. God has given each of you some special abilities; be sure to use them to help each other, passing on to others God's many kinds of blessings. Are you called to preach? Then preach as though God himself were speaking through you. Are you called to help others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies so that God will be glorified through Jesus Christ—to him be glory and power forever and ever. Amen.

TLB

1 Peter 4:7-11

The Compassionate Life

A Special Gift

The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer. Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaint. As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

NASB

1 Peter 4:7-11

The Compassionate Life

A Gift To Use

The time is near when all things will end. So think clearly and control yourselves so you will be able to pray. Most importantly, love each other deeply, because love will cause many sins to be forgiven. Open your homes to each other, without complaining. Each of you has received a gift to use to serve others. Be good servants of God's various gifts of grace. Anyone who speaks should speak words from God. Anyone who serves should serve with the strength God gives so that in everything God will be praised through Jesus Christ. Power and glory belong to him forever and ever. Amen.

NCV

1 Peter 4:7-11

Use Whatever Gift

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

The Compassionate Life – 1 Peter 4:7-11

In Context: Read 1 Peter 4

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

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Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

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. Amen. 1 Peter 4:7-11 (NIV)

Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I know that my time on this earth is short. Someday soon, I will be with you in heaven. I would like to give a good report. I want to bear fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. Help me to lovingly and lavishly use all my gifts to serve others. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

How is being clear minded and self-controlled helping you to pray?

When has foggy and undisciplined thinking, speaking, and acting hindered your ability to pray?

How has your deep love for others made you able to overlook faults in them?

When have you gone all out to joyfully extend hospitality to someone in need?

When has someone known they were receiving grace from God through the lavish expression of your gifts?

Why will you never regret using all the gifts God has given you, to serve others?

How is generously using all your gifts to serve others bearing fruit and bringing glory to God?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Use all the gifts God has given to you, to serve others, so that you can bear fruit and bring glory to His name.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that God has given you gifts with which you can lovingly and lavishly serve others.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how you are using your gifts to lavishly serve others.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you use all the gifts the Lord has given you, to serve others.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, help me to use all the gifts you have given me, to serve others.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I use all the gifts you have given me, to serve others?
