

Living in Exile: Living Focused on Eternity
I Peter 4:7-11

I Peter 4:7-11 *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.*

Big Question: How can I live my life focused on eternity?

Action #1: By praying harder.

I Peter 4:7 *The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers.*

I Thessalonians 5:17 *pray without ceasing*

I Thessalonians 5:6 *So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober.*

Matthew 26:38-41 *Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me." And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will." And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, "So, could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."*

Action #2: By loving deeper.

I Peter 4:8 *Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, ...*

I Corinthians 13:7 *Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.*

I Peter 4:8 *... since love covers a multitude of sins.*

Proverbs 10:12 *Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all offenses.*

Galatians 6:1-2 *Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.*

I Peter 4:9 *Show hospitality to one another without grumbling.*

Matthew 24:12 *And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold.*

II Timothy 3:2-5 *For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people.*

John 13:35 *By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.*

Action #3: By serving sacrificially.

I Peter 4:10-11 *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—...*

Reason/Result: The glory of the Lord.

I Peter 4:11 *... in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.*