

## LifeGroup Questions

Based On: 1 Peter 4:7-10

October 21, 2018

### Overview

Imagine for a moment that every word you said for a solid week was recorded and transcribed for everyone to read. Would every written word reflect your life in Christ? Would they be words of hope, love, and encouragement? Let's take the same scenario and only change one factor. The recording would start on Monday and you knew for certain that the end of all things was happening on Friday. Jesus was returning Friday at high noon. Does this change any of the words you say or actions you take throughout the week?

1 Peter 4:7a reads: <sup>7</sup>"The end of all things is near. Therefore" Peter is calling everyone to live as if the end is near. He goes on to list several activities. Believers are called to be alert and of sober mind for prayer, love others, be hospitable, and use your gifts. What might be considered unusual is that Peter doesn't require some extraordinary act of faith. Everything he lists should already be part of the Christian Life. Peter is in no way setting dates for the end. He is just acknowledging the fact Jesus was born, lived, died, and rose again which initiated the last days.

"The imminence of the end should function as a stimulus to action in this world. The knowledge that believers are sojourners and exiles, whose time is short, should galvanize them to make their lives count now. We might expect a call for extraordinary behavior, thinking something unusual would be demanded in light of the arrival of the end. Peter exhorted his readers, however, to pursue virtues that are a normal part of New Testament. We are reminded of what Martin Luther said when asked what he would do if the end would come today. He replied that he would plant a tree and pay his taxes. What Luther meant, of course, was that he lived every day in light of the end, and hence he would do the appointed task of that day." <sup>1</sup>

### Bible Study: 1 Peter 4:7-10

1. Discuss as a group what would be on your bucket list of things to do.
2. Read 1 Peter 4:8. How do believers show love toward one another?
3. Read Matthew 24:12. How do the events of the world cause both believers and non-believers alike to become callous?

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<sup>1</sup> Schreiner, T. R. (2003). [1, 2 Peter, Jude](#) (Vol. 37, p. 211). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

4. If someone has wronged you, how does loving them help you overlook the wrong?
5. Hospitality usually has boundaries. Believers don't mind being hospitable as long as there is a beginning and ending date. In what ways does grumbling hinder hospitality?
6. Discuss the following statement: "Spiritual gifts are not fundamentally a privilege but a responsibility, a call to be faithful to what God has bestowed."<sup>2</sup>
7. In what ways are you being a good steward of the gifts God has given you?

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<sup>2</sup> Schreiner, T. R. (2003). [\*1, 2 Peter, Jude\*](#) (Vol. 37, p. 214). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.