

People Under Pressure

Stewarding Our New Life

1 Peter 4:1-11

Stewardship is a high calling. “A ‘steward’ was one who served as a house manager; he had no wealth of his own, but distributed his master’s wealth according to the master’s will and direction.”

“Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God. For the time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry. With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you; but they will give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. For this is why the gospel was preached even to those who are dead, that though judged in the flesh the way people are, they might live in the spirit the way God does. 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.” 1 Peter 4:1-11

Main Idea: People Under Pressure are Stewards of the Life We’ve Been Given.

I. Steward our Lives for God (1-2)

“Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God.”

1 Peter 4:1-2

2025 Theme Verse:

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.” 2 Corinthians 5:17

Since Christ suffered and died, and we are in Him, we died to sin with Him!

“We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin.” Romans 6:6-7

Don’t give up. Live for the one who suffered for your sake!

“For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God...Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.” Colossians 3:3, 5

Peter challenges us to steward our lives by dying to sin along with Jesus, but he doesn’t stop there: “...so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God.” **1 Peter 4:2**

He calls us also to LIVE victoriously along with Christ and carry out the will of God.

Our time on earth is precious! Why? Because we know it’s short.

“yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.” James 4:14

What will you do with it?

“If a person really believes in eternity, then he will make the best use of time. If we are convinced that Jesus is coming, then we will want to live prepared lives. Whether Jesus comes first or death comes first, we want to make ‘the rest of the time’ count for eternity” Warren Wiersbe

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II. Steward our Lives for the Lost (3-6)

“For the time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry. With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you; but they will give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. For this is why the gospel was preached even to those who are dead, that though judged in the flesh the way people are, they might live in the spirit the way God does.” 1 Peter 4:3-6

When you choose to live differently than the world around us, we get highlighted, sometimes in pretty negative ways. [IF you don’t look any different than the world around you, you’ve got to ask yourself why not?]

“Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.” 2 Timothy 2:10

We are different, not to be judgmental or self-righteous, but to show how excellent our God is!

“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.” 1 Peter 2:9

“And the Lord’s servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.” 2 Timothy 2:24–26

As stewards we are called to live in a way that points a lost world to the One who saves!

“And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.”

Hebrews 9:27-28

We are stewards looking forward to seeing our Master and our Savior face to face!

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III. Steward our Lives for the Church (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.” 1 Peter 4:7-11

“The end of all things is at hand;” Jesus can return at any time!

“Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.” Acts 1:11

The return of our King is as imminent right now as it ever was. So what do we do?

1) We steward our lives for God, **2)** we live to communicate the gospel to the world, and **3)** we share our lives with the church family that Christ has built.

Prayer

“therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers.”

“do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” Philippians 4:6

Love

“Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.”

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”

John 15:12

Hospitality

“Show hospitality to one another without grumbling.”

“And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’” Matthew 25:40

Service

“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”

“When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, ‘Do you understand what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.’” John 13:12-17

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God brings results because His people said yes to serving!

Where are you serving? Have you said YES to what He wants you to do?

Visit saalemchurchnyc.org/events and let’s get moving together!

All for the Glory of God!

“in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

Main Idea: People Under Pressure are Stewards of the Life We've Been Given.

Each new day is a chance for us to steward what God has given us, for God, for the lost, and for the church. It's never too early or too late. Live your life as a steward for Jesus starting right now!

Invitation: Today is the day to begin your life in Christ!

*“‘In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you.’
Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.”*

2 Corinthians 6:2

Fill out a Connect Card today to talk more about placing your faith in Jesus!

saalemchurchnyc.org/welcome

Sources and Further Reading Opportunities

- *The Bible Exposition Commentary* – Warren Wiersbe (1996)
- *ESV Study Bible* – Crossway (2008)
- *The Bible Knowledge Commentary* – Walvoord & Zuck (1983)
- *Tyndale NT Commentaries - 1 Peter* – Wayne Grudem (1988)
- *The Expository Notes on the Epistles of James & Peter* – H. A. Ironside (1947)
- *New Bible Commentary* – D.A. Carson (1994)
- *Holman Concise Bible Commentary* – David S. Dockery (1998)
- *Baker Commentary of the Bible* – Walter A. Elwell (1989)