



The Essentials: 1 and 2 Peter

Session 6

1 Peter 4:7 – 4:19

Opening Collect

Together: Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Watch Video

Read: 1 Peter 4:7-19

Discussion:

1. Have you ever seriously considered that there will be an end to all things? How might that impact your present life?
2. In addition to loving one another earnestly (v. 8), Peter says, we should make use of the time we're given by using our various gifts (vv. 10 and 11). What gift do you think God has given you that is extremely important for you to use in the time you're given? Discuss as a group if you cannot think of your own!
3. While most of us are shocked whenever we experience suffering, Peter says we should not be surprised (v. 12). Do you think it's possible to be prepared for suffering? Why or why not?
4. V. 13 suggests that our sufferings are somehow connected to Christ's suffering. How might that change the way we engage with our painful experiences?
5. What do you find hopeful about v. 19? What are areas in your life where you need to entrust yourself to our faithful Creator?

Check in and Closing Prayer

1 Peter 4:7 – 4:19

The end of all things is near; therefore be serious and discipline yourselves for the sake of your prayers. ⁸ Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹ Be hospitable to one another without complaining. ¹⁰ Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. ¹¹ 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.

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. ¹⁵ But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, a criminal, or even as a mischief maker. ¹⁶ Yet if any of you suffers as a Christian, do not consider it a disgrace, but glorify God because you bear this name. ¹⁷ For the time has come for judgment to begin with the household of God; if it begins with us, what will be the end for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸ And

“If it is hard for the righteous to be saved,
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?”

¹⁹ Therefore, let those suffering in accordance with God's will entrust their lives to a faithful Creator, while continuing to do good.