**Things you need – Serving others**

**1 Pet. 4:7 -11**

**Focal Truth: All believers need a ministry of serving others**

**Observations**

1. **The end of the world is near, Jesus is about to return to the world – 4:7**
2. Rom. 13:11 – do this, knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep, for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed.
3. Heb. 9:26 – but now once at the consummation of the ages He has been manifested to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself
4. James 5: 8 – 9 - you too be patient, strengthen your hearts for the coming of the Lord is near. Do not complain brethren, against one another, so that you yourselves may not be judged, behold he Judge is standing right at the door
5. 1 John 2:18 – Children, it is the last hour, and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have appeared, from this we know that it is the last hour
6. **Pray in the end times with sound mind and sober spirit – 4:7**
7. Sound mind = right minded, mind under control
8. Rom 12:3 – for through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think, but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith
9. Tit. 2:6 – likewise urge young men to be sensible – right minded
10. Sober spirit = calm, collected, dispassionate spirit
11. 1 Thess. 5:6 - So then let us not sleep as others do, but let us be alert and sober
12. 1 Thess. 5:8 – but since we are of the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of salvation
13. 1 Pet. 1:13 – prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ
14. 1 Pet. 5:8 – be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil , prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour
15. Sound mindedness & sober spirit prepare us for praying – “for the purpose of prayer”
16. Rom.15:30 – I urge you, brethren, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God for me
17. 2 Cor. 1:11 – you also joining in helping us through your prayers, so that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the favor bestowed on us through the prayers of many
18. Col. 4:12 – Epaphras, who is one of your number, a bondslave of Jesus Christ, send you his greetings, always laboring earnestly for you in his prayers, that you may stand perfect and fully assured in all the will of God
19. **Fervently love other believers in these end times – 4:8**
20. Fervently love = stretched out, earnestly love – love the brethren with sincerity
21. 1 Pet. 1:22 – since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart
22. 1 Thess. 3:12 – may the Lord cause you to increase and abound in love for one another, and for all people, just as we also do for you
23. Heb. 13:1 – let love of the brethren continue
24. **Be hospitable to others in these end times –** **4:9**
25. Hospitable = generous to guests
26. John 13: 12 -15 – So when He had washed their feet, and taken His garments and reclined at the table again, He said to them, Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord and you are right, for so I am. If then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you
27. John 21:9 – so when they got out on the land, they saw a charcoal fire already laid and fish placed on it, and bread.
28. John 21:12 – Jesus said to them, come and have breakfast.
29. John 21:13 – Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and the fish likewise
30. Rom.12:13 – practicing hospitality
31. Heb. 13:2 – do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it
32. **Serve others with the spiritual gifts you have been given in these end times – 4:9**
33. Use your special spiritual gift to serve others
34. Serve = wait on others, care for others. Same word as deacons – table waiter
35. Matt. 20:28 – the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve…
36. 2 Tim 1:16 – 18 – the Lord grant mercy to the house of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains, but when he was in Rome, he eagerly searched for me and found me, the Lord grant to him to find mercy from the Lord on that day and you know very well what services he rendered at Ephesus
37. Heb. 6:10 – for God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints
38. Use your special spiritual gift as a good steward of God’s manifold grace
39. 1 Pet 4:11 – 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 gloried through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the

 glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen

**Things to Remember**

1. The end of all things is very close
2. Prayerfulness increases as the end of time comes closer
3. Fervent love for God’s people is stretched out love
4. Hospitality is serving like the Lord Jesus Christ
5. Those who serve the Lord Jesus, serve others

**Daily Use**

1. Do you live with an awareness that we are at the end of time?
2. Do you pray like it is the end of time?
3. Is your love for others stretching you?
4. When did you last show hospitality to a stranger or strangers? Not just your family?
5. Commit yourself to serve like Jesus
6. Serve others with all your heart!