

**Ministry**  
**1 Peter 4:7-11**  
**June 25, 2017**

*But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers. <sup>8</sup> And above all things have fervent love for one another, for “love will cover a multitude of sins.” <sup>9</sup> Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. <sup>10</sup> As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. <sup>11</sup> If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

**1 Peter 4:7-11**

**Five instructions that are given in our passage today:**

**1) Be serious and watchful in prayer.**

*<sup>6</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup> in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

*Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; <sup>7</sup> and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.*

**Philippians 4:6-8**

We change **no** one, not even ourselves. We are to obey and pray. We are to obey and pray and take action when God’s Word is clear or when He speaks.

*Pray the Bible, Donald Whitney*

*We are in boot camp for the Kingdom. Chuck Missler*

**2) Love fervently (intently and earnestly).**

The word “love” here is agape love. The essence of such love is goodwill, benevolence and willful delight in the object of love. It involves faithfulness, commitment and an act of the will. This is the same love that is of and from God. Therefore God is love and we can only love fervently if we have received God’s love.<sup>1</sup>

It is impossible to truly love (as we see in Scripture) on our own.

God’s love is also a tough love at times and is in ours and His best interest.

**3) Be hospitable (\*without grumbling\*).**

This word is “the quality or disposition of receiving friends, guests and strangers in a warm, friendly and generous way<sup>2</sup>.” We have had a major example of this the last 2 months.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gotquestions.org/agape-love.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.gotquestions.org/Bible-hospitality.html>

*Let brotherly love continue. <sup>2</sup> Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels.* **Hebrews 13:1-2**

We see this word often used in Scripture when it speaks of widows, foreigners, the poor and sojourners. In all this, we are to do it with God's love and in wisdom.

#### **4) Use our gifts to minister to one another.**

Such ability is of and by God.

If you are a Christian, God has given you a spiritual gift.

These include serving, teaching, encouraging, giving, leadership, mercy, words of wisdom, words of knowledge, faith, discerning spirits and helps. (Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, 1 Corinthians 12:28)

We are to use them. If not, we suffer and so does God's Church.

"We defraud the body of Christ when we discover (know) our gifts and don't use it."  
~ **Chuck Missler.**

I would add, if we don't seek to find out what it is in the first place and then use it.

How are you using your gift inside and outside of God's Church?

**PLACE** - Personal discovery, Learning spiritual gifts, Abilities awareness, Connecting Passion with ministry, Experiences of life.

#### **5) Speak the Word of God.**

Includes ministering in and through God.

In essence, it's all about Him.

*For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever.* **Romans 11:36**

#### **Prayer Focus:**

**As a part of God's Church, how does this describe you?**

**How does this describe our Church?**

**Pray and ask the Lord in one area (of the 5) that He would have you intently focus and be obedient on and how you can put hands and feet to that area!**