

## Reflection Questions: 1 Peter 4:11-17

For the message, "Let Us Show Hospitality To One Another" given by Pastor John Ferguson at Mercy Hill Church in Bryan/College Station, Texas, on March 30, 2025

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*These reflection questions are designed to help you apply the message from the Scriptures by helping you think through application to your personal life, your church life, and your city's life. You can use these by yourself for reflection, or with your family or small group for discussion. To review the message, go to [MercyHillBCS.org/resources/messages](https://MercyHillBCS.org/resources/messages).*

### **INTRODUCTION**

**Pray.** Take a moment to pray asking God to guide you in reflecting upon the Scripture text.

**Read the Scripture text:** 1 Peter 4:11-17

**7** The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. **8** Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. **9** Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. **10** As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: **11** 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.

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### **Let's get started...**

- What initially grabs your attention in this text?

### **QUESTIONS**

#### **1. Let's think about how this text applies to our lives as individuals.**

- (1) How do you define hospitality? Is it just about opening your home, or is it something more?
- (2) We know from this letter that these early followers of Jesus were experiencing persecution. Peter called it "a fiery trial" (4:12), and he called them to remember that since Jesus had suffered, they too should be prepared to suffer for their faith (4:1). Does it surprise you that in the midst of this, Peter calls them "above all to keep loving one another earnestly," and to "show hospitality to one another"? Shouldn't they get a pass? Explain what you are thinking.
- (3) Everyone knows that Jesus is the friend of sinners, and that he extended hospitality by welcoming them and eating with them (cf. Luke 15:1-2). Earlier in this letter, Peter talked about the great salvation we have been given (1:3-9), being redeemed by the precious blood of Jesus (1:19). How is the fact that Jesus extended welcome and hospitality to us serve as the basis for why we should do this with our fellow believers?

**2. Let's think about how this text applies to us as a community of Jesus' followers.**

- (1) Peter tells this community to “show hospitality to one another with out grumbling.” The Apostle Paul told believers to “seek to show hospitality” (Romans 12:13). The book of Hebrews reminds us, “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers.” How might things change for us if we thought of hospitality as a spiritual discipline like prayer or reading the Bible?
  
- (2) Peter emphasizes serving without grumbling (v. 9). What are some ways we might struggle with grumbling when it comes to hospitality, and how can we overcome this?

**3. Let's think about how this text applies to our city.**

- (1) If someone in our city were to look at how we practice hospitality as a church, what would they see? What would we want them to see?
  
- (2) How might practicing biblical hospitality be a countercultural witness in our city

CONCLUSION QUESTION

What is the one thing you want to take away from this study to remember or to make a change in your life?

PRAYER

What are some ways you can turn what you are learning into prayer? List them as bullet points....

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