

**CONNECTION QUESTION**

Think back to Y2K. Do you have any stories of people's commitment to surviving "the end of the world"? What do these stories (and our society's fascination with the apocalypse) tell us about our culture?

BRINGING THE BIBLE TO LIFE**> READ 1 PETER 4:7.**

Peter refers to "the end of all things" being at hand. Did Peter think the world was going to end in the first century? What does he mean by this statement?

How does living in light of the end give us an eternal perspective? How does this eternal perspective help us grow spiritually?

What happens in a Christian's life when they are not self-controlled and sober-minded? Have you missed out on opportunities to serve God in the past because you weren't self-controlled or sober-minded?

Why is prayer important? Do you have an intentional time reserved for prayer each day? What is one way that you can practice self-control in order to pray this coming week?

> 1 PETER 4:8-9.

Read Matt. 18:23-35. Peter tells us that love "covers a multitude of sins". What does this mean? How does the



love of Christ for us help us to love others (cf. 1 John 4:19)? What specific actions can we take to live out 1 Peter 4:8?

Peter teaches us to love others by opening up our homes. What are some ways that we can show hospitality? Why is it important to have others in your home?

How is hospitality demonstrated? Share some different ways. Do you have to have the gift of hospitality to open up your home?

Read Phil. 2:3-5. How do Paul's words here help us to show hospitality without grumbling?

> 1 PETER 4:10-11.

Read Eph. 4:7-14. Do you know your spiritual gifts? How do you discover your spiritual gifts? Why is it important that everyone use their spiritual gifts for others? Is any one spiritual gift more important than another?

What keeps us from using our spiritual gifts for the church? What would happen if no one used their spiritual gifts?

NEXT STEPS

What would CrossWinds look like if everyone prayed habitually, loved sacrificially, and served consistently? What would our communities look like?