

Revolution Gathering

Week 5: Don't Miss Grace!

This Week's Scripture Reading : 1 Peter 3 - 5, 2 Peter 1 - 3, 1 John 1 - 5, 2 John, 3 John, Jude, Revelation 1 - 3 and Psalm 34 - 40

Today We're Are Going To Be Looking At 1 Peter 4: 7-11

1 Peter 4:7-8 (NIV)

The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. ⁸ Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.

Let's Look Closely At . . .

1 Peter 4:7 (NIV)

The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray.

Clear Minded Defined: Of Sound Mind - In Your Right Mind

Self-Controlled Defined: Watchful - Sober

Clear Minded. . .

2 Timothy 1:7 (NKJV)

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

Galatians 3:2 (NIV)

I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law, or by believing what you heard?

So This Clear Mindedness - Is Clearly A Product Of Faith!

Self-Control

Colossians 2:20-23 (NIV)

Since you died with Christ to the basic principles of this world, why, as though you still belonged to it, do you submit to its rules: ²¹ "Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!"? ²² These are all destined to perish with use, because they are based on human commands and teachings. ²³ Such regulations indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence.

So You Can Pray. . .**James 4:2-3 (NIV)**

You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God. ³ When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

Titus 2:11-14 (NIV)

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. ¹² It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope--the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

Questions:

- How Does Living In Grace Help You Maintain A Clear Mind?
- How Does Living In Grace Help You Remain Self-Controlled?
- How Does A Clear Mind And Self-Control Affect Your Ability To Pray?
- As A Group, List Several Possible Prayers From A Confused Mind Governed By Law Versus A Clear Mind Governed By Grace.

1 Peter 4:8 (NIV)

Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.

Galatians 5:6 (NIV)

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

You Will Need Two Things For This To Take Place:

1. To Have Received The Love Of God - His Grace!
2. To Remain Connected To His Love - His Grace!

Hebrews 12:14-15 (NIV)

Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵ See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

1 John 2:9-11 (NIV)

Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates his brother is still in the darkness. ¹⁰ Whoever loves his brother lives in the light, and there is nothing in him to make him stumble. ¹¹ But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness; he does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded him.

Questions:

- Why Do Church People Always Go To The List Whenever Confronted With Holy Living?
- What Is More Difficult; Giving Up A Bad Habit Or Loving The Unlovely?
- Why Is Bitterness The Result Of The Absence Of Grace?
- Why Is Blessing The Result Of The Presence Of Love?
- On A Scale Of 1-10, How Well Do You Think The Church At Large Is Doing With Living In The Grace Of God And Being Clear Minded And Self-Controlled?
- On That Same Scale, 1-10 Rate How You're Doing With Living In The Grace Of God And Being Clear Minded And Self-Controlled.

1 Peter 4:7-11 (NIV)

The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. ⁸ Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. ⁹ Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰ Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. ¹¹ If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Truth Statement For Today . . .

The Grace Of God Is Given To Us So That We May Live This Life
In Such A Way That In Everything We Do God Will Be Praised.

Next Week's Scripture Reading: Revelation 4-22 and Psalms 41-48