

Sermon: Live for God!

Text: I Peter 4:1-11 ESV

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Introduction: One question that will keep coming up in your life, even daily, is: “For Whom are you living?” The earlier you get this question settled, the happier you will be. If you decide to live for God there must be:

I _____ (Faith is not irrational)

- A. Jesus _____ for us (v. 1a, c)
- B. The new life is to be lived for _____ (v. 2b).
- C. Judgment is _____ (vv. 5-7a).

II. _____

- A. _____ like Christ (vv. 1b, 7b). - Intentionality
- B. _____ the members of Christ’s Church (vv. 8-9).
- C. Use your God-given _____ (v. 10).

III. _____ (Fruit)

- A. A Christian comes to his _____ (v. 2-3).
- B. Not everyone _____ a good example (v. 4).
- C. God is _____ (v. 11c).

Conclusion: Two thousand years ago, a church elder named Peter wrote the recipe for community: “Above all else,” he wrote, “hold unfailing your love for one another, since love covers a multitude of sins (I Peter 4:8).

The best advice I can give you this morning is “Live for God!”

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Stewards of God's Grace

1 Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, 2 so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God. 3 For the time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry. 4 With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you; 5 but they will give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. 6 For this is why the gospel was preached even to those who are dead, that though judged in the flesh the way people are, they might live in the spirit the way God does.

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.