

WE NEED EACH OTHER!
MAINTAINING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IN THE LAST DAYS
I Peter 4:7-11

I. BE ALERT AND CLEAR-MINDED, SO YOU CAN PRAY.

(cf. April 16 - I Peter 1:13 - "go bag")

Eng. Standard Version: The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers.

NASB: The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer.

A. A PREPARED _____ - 4:7 - alert

II Thess 2:2 - Be not quickly shaken from your mind, nor yet be troubled...

Prov. 23:7 - as you think in your heart, so are you

Rom. 12:2 - be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

1. I must put out of - and try to _____ out of - my mind all things that would hinder my spiritual sanity.

2. I must keep _____ at the center of my mind.

B. CONTROLLED _____ - 4:7 - be self-controlled

It is the opposite of living in a frenzy or panic. Keep your _____.

I Peter 5:8 - "Be self controlled and alert."

I Thess 5:6 - "But let us be alert and self-controlled."

Matt 26:41 - (Jesus to His sleeping disciples) - "watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak."

C. A _____ LIFE - 4:7 - "so that you can pray!"

When our minds aren't alert, and our emotions are uncontrolled, we won't be able to _____ as God wants us to!

II. _____ EACH OTHER DEEPLY - v.8 - agape (1:22)

Give each other the benefit of the doubt. This does not mean to ignore _____ or let sin slide.

III. BE HOSPITABLE v. 9 (cf. Gal. 6:10)

IV. SERVE OTHERS WITH YOUR _____ - v. 10,11

God gives gifts as He wills/determines - I Cor. 12:11

A. Speaking gifts - how to speak to others - build up, not tear down

B. Serving gifts - with God's strength.