

## **COMPELLING WITNESSES**

From the series – 1 PETER: COMPELLING CHURCH

## **KEY POINT**

We are to live with the end in mind, and we do that when we think, pray, love, and serve like Jesus. In walking each of these out, not only will we be living with the end in mind, but we will be serving as COMPELLING WITNESSES to the world around us of who Jesus is, and what Jesus is like.

## **BIBLE STUDY**

- **1.** Read <u>1 Peter 4:1-11</u> begin by making some general observations about the text. What are a few things that either encourage, challenge, or make you go 'hmmm?'
- 2. Read <u>1 Peter 4:7</u> Peter warns the church that the end of the world is coming soon. Why would the end of all things bring comfort to the church in the 1<sup>st</sup> century? How might this same message bring comfort to the church in the 21<sup>st</sup> century? How should the end fuel our life of prayer?
- **3.** Read <u>1 Peter 4:1-2</u> Peter calls the church to 'arm yourselves with the same attitude' of Jesus. What was the attitude of Jesus throughout His earthly ministry? For those who begin thinking 'like Jesus', what are two consequences that will ensue, specifically related to sin and our 'former friends'? To help answer this question, read <u>1 Peter 4:3-6</u>.
- **4.** Read <u>1 Peter 4:8</u> How should living with the end in mind impact how Christians relate with other Christians? And how might these relationships serve as a witness to those who do not know Jesus?
- 5. Read 1 Peter 4:9-11 Peter reminds the church that they have all been gifted by God and they are to use their God-given gifts to serve one another. What are your gifts, and how can you use your gifts to serve the body of Christ? If you are not currently serving, what might God be calling you into?

## REFLECT

According to God's Word spoken through Peter, to live with the end in mind means: thinking, praying, loving, and serving like Jesus. Of these four areas, which you need to grow the most in? What are some practical steps that you can begin to take that would lead to growing in this area?