

Our Holy Service—Love Outpoured

Text: 1 Peter 4:7-11

Series: Becoming Wholly His
August 19, 2007—Pastor Eric Slotter

“Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart”
--1 Peter 1:22 (ESV)--

Live Life with the END in Mind

“The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers.” 1 Peter 4:1 (ESV)

“The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.” 2 Peter 3:9 (ESV)

“[L]et us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith” Hebrews 12:1b-2a (ESV)

- **Living Life for the sake of OTHERS**
- **Living Life—beginning to end—for JESUS**

Love One Another EARNESTLY

“Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.” 1 Peter 4:8 (ESV)

“Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.” 1 Corinthians 13:7-8a (ESV)

- **Love—A DECISION resulting in an ACTION**
- **Love—Both STRETCHES and STRENGTHENS**
- **Love—A Taste of ETERNITY here and now**

Serve One Another GRACIOUSLY

“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace” 1 Peter 4:10 (ESV)

“And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” Colossians 3:17 (ESV)

“Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” 1 Peter 5:5 (ESV)

Prayer: Dear Lord—Open my eyes to the needs of this body. Stir my heart and call me clearly. Show me, Lord, how I might, with humility and love, serve your church so that in everything you might be glorified. Amen.

Question: Where might you serve so that others might be encouraged and built up?

Live Lives of Welcome and true HOSPITALITY

“Show hospitality to one another without grumbling.” 1 Peter 4:9 (ESV)

“When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.” Leviticus 19:33 (ESV)

“But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you.” Luke 14:13 (ESV)

- **Hospitality—**
 - **Literally, to LOVE the STRANGER**
 - **Reflects the gracious WELCOME of God**
 - **Recognizes & honors God’s IMAGE in ALL**

“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.”

--Matthew 25:35-36 (ESV)—