

## 1<sup>st</sup> Peter—Group Study Questions #13

### Connecting With One Another

Since this past Sunday marked the official First Day of Spring, what are some things that you hope to 'leave behind' in the colder months and what are some things you hope to 'look eagerly' in the coming months?

- Outdoor tasks or joys?
- Spring cleaning or de-cluttering?
- 'Casting aside' or 'welcoming'?

HOW can we practically come alongside one another during these ever-fluid stretching times?

### Entering 1 Peter

Since Peter continues his letter in chapter 4, verse 7 with "*The end of all things is near,*" does he mean ALL things or SOME strategic things?

- When YOU think of that word "END" what immediately comes to your mind (eg. politically, socially, personally)?
- Does the word "end" provoke a relaxed 'Aah, finally' or an anxious 'what's next?' feeling for you?
  - When you think of the various 'endings' in your own life (take a moment to remember them), do you remember a feeling of relaxation or unsettledness or stretching forward?
- When you imagine your own "all things," what specifically are ALL your things? (Just pause and imagine)

### Encountering the text together

READ 1 Peter 4:7-11 together out loud—SLOWLY—in one or two different translations (perhaps even in non-English languages if this is helpful for you or others in your group).

- Take a moment to share any initial observations, words that puzzle you or catch your attention, ideas that resonate or feel unsettling.
- When you are told that something is "near" (see verse 7), what are the real-life things that you anticipate with joy (eg. a birthday, vacation) and what things do you dread (eg. a medical procedure, tax-time)?
- List the number of verbs (action words) that Peter uses in these 5 verses.
  - What does each word mean (in the real world, not in some nebulous 'religious' context)?
  - Can you identify people you know who exhibit such action words? Feel free to name them out loud.

- In your assessment, HOW are they able to do it? Personal bent? Skill-set? Availability?
- When you read 1 Peter 4:7-11, HOW are God's people to use their gifts? Be specific (from the passage) and be practical (in Victoria 2022).

### **Praying Alongside One Another**

- Take time to pray out of what you've discussed and shared – praying for one another and others who might also come to mind. Perhaps begin with a time of quiet reflection and allow God to speak to you.
- Pray for each other as individuals, as a group, as Lambrick's congregation, as God's expression through us, and others of his people all over the world. In these days perhaps remember especially our spiritual kinfolk in Ukraine, Russia and their surrounding countries, while NOT forgetting the prayer needs of Canada's own First Nations and other folks, local and international.