

“Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

First Peter Bible Study — I Peter 4:9- 14 Lesson #16

****INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the entire section of Scripture in First Peter before starting to look up the other Scripture verses and filling in the blanks. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you understanding as you read God’s word.

9-11 **Be HOSPITABLE to ONE ANOTHER** without grumbling. **As each one has RECEIVED a GIFT, MINISTER it to ONE ANOTHER**, as **good STEWARDS** of the manifold grace of God. If anyone **speaks**, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone **ministers**, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, **that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ**, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

• **Ephesians 6:7** “With good will doing _____, as to the _____, and not to _____.”

• **Colossians 3:17** “And _____ you _____ in word or _____, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

• **I Timothy 3:2** “A _____ then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, _____, able to teach.....”

• **Titus 1:7-8** “For a _____ must be blameless, as a _____ of _____, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but _____, a lover of what is _____, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled....”

Definition: “Be HOSPITABLE to ONE ANOTHER” – Being hospitable, or showing hospitality means being welcoming to others. It does not just mean welcoming someone into your home, but also **welcoming new arrivals or guests in the church assembly. It means REACHING OUT to a new person and making them FEEL WELCOME and COMFORTABLE.** It means **SHOWING the LOVE of CHRIST in a tangible way.** In Hebrews 13:2-3, it is also mentioned along with visiting prisoners and those who are mistreated in any way. I believe **BEING HOSPITABLE** can apply to many situations, not just entertaining people in your home. When it says “entertain strangers”, I believe it was meant more for that time, when Christians would come visiting from other parts of the world, and they would be welcomed into the home of other Christians. In our day and time, just inviting any old stranger into your home would not be a good idea. Notice, all of these Scriptures are talking about **being hospitable to ONE ANOTHER and to those IN THE BODY of Christ**, so it is referring to other Christians.

• **Hebrews 13:2-3** “Do not forget to _____ strangers (show hospitality), for by so doing some have unwittingly _____ angels. _____ the _____ as if chained with them, and those who are _____, since you yourselves are in the _____ also.”

Definition: “As each one has RECEIVED a GIFT, MINISTER it to ONE ANOTHER” – The kind of GIFT Peter is speaking about is a **SPIRITUAL GIFT, which ALL true Believers in Jesus Christ have received at least one.** Many of us as Believers **have received MORE than one gift**, and the reason God gives us these spiritual gifts is to use them on behalf of other Christians, **for the good of the Body of Christ, and to BUILD UP His church** (that’s what it means when it says “**MINISTER it to ONE ANOTHER**”). Peter only mentions a few of these GIFTS, such a hospitality, speaking the word of God (preaching), and **MINISTERING** (serving others). Some of the spiritual gifts that are mentioned in these Scriptures below are: being an apostle, being a pastor, prophecy (preaching), teaching, helps, exhortation (also called encouraging, and also can refer to preaching); giving, leadership (also called

administration), showing mercy, healing, miracles, speaking in tongues, and interpretation of tongues. **NOBODY has ALL of these gifts**, and most of us just have a few different ones. We are to serve within the Body of Christ and **use our gifts for the good of the CHURCH as a WHOLE**, not for any selfish reasons of our own.

• **Ephesians 4:11-13** “And He Himself gave _____ to be _____, some _____, some _____, and some _____ and _____, for the _____ of the _____ for the _____ of _____, for the edifying (building up) of the _____ of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect (mature) man, to the measure of the stature of the _____ of _____.”

• **I Corinthians 12:27-30** “Now you are the _____ of _____, and members individually. And God has appointed these in the church: first _____, second _____, third _____, after that miracles, then _____ of healings, _____, administrations, varieties of tongues. Are all _____? Are all _____? Are all workers of miracles? Do all have gifts of healings? Do all _____ with _____? Do all interpret?”

• **Romans 12:4-8** “For as we have many _____ in one _____, but all the _____ do _____ have the same _____, so we, being many, are _____ in Christ, and individually members of _____. Having then _____ differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if _____, let us prophesy (preach) in proportion to our faith; or ministry (serving), let us _____ it in our _____; he who _____, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who _____, with liberality (generosity); he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.”

Definition: “GOOD STEWARDS of the manifold GRACE of GOD” – A steward is someone who takes care of something belonging to another person, usually belonging to his master or employer. The dictionary says “a person who is put in charge of the affairs, finances or estate of another person.” **God has put us in charge of MINISTERING the GOSPEL of Jesus Christ to others.** It is God’s grace and His gospel, but **He has given us the responsibility of giving it out to others and taking charge of His kingdom here on earth.** In Matthew 28:18-20, commonly called “The Great Commission”, Jesus tells us to TAKE His AUTHORITY and make disciples of all people everywhere. The authority is not ours, it is His, but He gives us the right to use His name and to be STEWARDS of His grace and mercy in the earth.

• **I Corinthians 9:17** “For if I do this willingly, I have a reward; but if against my will, I have been _____ with a _____.”

• **I Corinthians 4:1-2** “Let a man so consider us, as _____ of Christ and _____ of the mysteries of _____. Moreover it is required in _____ that one be found _____.”

• **Matthew 28:18-20** “Then Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, ‘All _____ has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. _____ therefore and make _____ of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, _____ them to _____ all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.’”

• **Romans 15:16** “That I might be a _____ of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, _____ the _____ of _____, that the offering of the Gentiles might be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.”

● **Colossians 1:25** “Of which I became a _____ according to the _____ from _____ which was _____ to me for _____, to fulfill the word of God.”

12-14 Beloved, **do NOT think it strange concerning the fiery TRIAL which is to TRY you**, as though some strange thing happened to you; but **REJOICE to the extent that you PARTAKE of Christ’s SUFFERINGS**, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy. If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. **On their part he is blasphemed, but on your part he is glorified.**

● **James 1:2-3** “My _____, count it all _____ when you fall into various _____, knowing that the _____ of your _____ produces _____.”

● **Acts 5:41** “So they departed from the presence of the council, _____ that they were counted worthy to _____ shame for His _____.”

● **John 16:33** “These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me you might have _____. In the world you shall have _____ (troubles, afflictions): but be of good _____; I have _____ the _____.”

Definition: “VARIOUS TRIALS and TESTINGS” — “Testing” means to qualify or prove by way of being put through certain conditions or procedures, in order to determine the quality or character of something. **“Trial” means a tryout or experiment to test** the quality, value or usefulness of something. Machines and automobiles are put through “stress tests” or given a TRIAL run to determine their strength. Peter tells us that God may allow us, as followers of Christ, to go through “various TRIALS, that the genuineness of our FAITH being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is TESTED by fire, may be found to praise, honor and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

● **I Peter 1:6-7** “In this you greatly _____, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved (distressed) by various _____, that the genuineness of your _____, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is _____ by _____, may be found to praise, honor and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

● **Matthew 5:10-12** “_____ are those who are _____ for righteousness _____, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed (happy) are you when they revile and _____ you, and _____ all kinds of _____ against you falsely for My _____. _____ and be exceedingly _____, for great is your _____ in heaven, for so they _____ the prophets who were before you.”

● **John 15:20-21** “Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A _____ is not greater than his _____.’ If they persecuted Me, they will also _____ you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also. But all these things they will do to you for My name’s _____, because they do not know Him who sent Me.”

● **Luke 6:22-23** “_____ are you when men _____ you, and when they exclude you, and revile you, and cast out your name as evil, for the _____ of Man’s _____. _____ in that day and leap for _____!”

Definition: “REJOICE to the extent that you PARTAKE of Christ’s SUFFERINGS” – This is not referring to Christ’s sufferings on the cross, because **NO ONE could do anything to ADD to what Jesus did on the CROSS to PAY for our sins.** The SUFFERINGS it is referring to means the hatred, PERSECUTION, RIDICULE, and MISTREATMENT by other people for our beliefs in Jesus Christ. In that aspect, **we are PARTAKING in Christ’s sufferings.** Jesus said that if He, as our Master, was

persecuted, then so will His followers or servants be persecuted. Our attitude is to REJOICE when we are suffering for His sake. You may wonder why so much of this book of the Bible is referring to our suffering as Christians, but if you look at history, you see that the early church was being heavily persecuted at this time, and many were even being tortured and put to death by the Romans.

●**Matthew 10:21-22** “Now brother will deliver up brother to _____, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. And you will be _____ by _____ for My _____ sake.....”

●**Colossians 1:24** “I now _____ in my _____ for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the _____ of _____, for the sake of His body, which is the _____.”

●**Matthew 10:24-25** “A _____ is not above his _____, nor a _____ above his _____. It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a _____ like his _____. If they have called the _____ of the house Beelzebub, how much more will they call those of his household!”

Definition: “They have CALLED the MASTER of the house BEELZEBUB” – Those who hate God and are enemies of the Gospel of Jesus Christ often resort to **name-calling**. Jesus is saying that His enemies will call Him “Beelzebub,” which is another name or title for Satan. Beelzebub actually means “lord of the flies.” Flies always gather on dead and rotting things, so it is **a descriptive title of Satan**, showing us his rottenness and filthiness, and also the flies represent his demons. Later, Jesus was accused by the Pharisees of **doing miracles by the power of Beelzebub**, because they did not want to admit Jesus was the Messiah who had come from God. Be very careful, and **do not assume that ALL miracles** or supernatural phenomena are from God, because Satan does have power to perform certain kinds of miracles. Satan can cause people to hear voices and see false visions, so beware of people who are always saying, “God told me this and that,” or “I had a vision.” Our faith **MUST** be founded and anchored **on the word of God**, not on miracles!

●**Matthew 12:24-26** “But when the Pharisees heard it they said, ‘This fellow does not cast out _____ except by _____, the _____ of the _____.’ But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them, ‘Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand. And if _____ casts out _____, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? And if I cast out _____ by _____, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they shall be your judges. But if I cast out _____ by the _____ of God

●**II Thessalonians 2:9** “The coming of the lawless one (the Anti-Christ) is according to the working of _____, with all _____, _____, and _____ wonders (miracles).”

Definition: “On their part he is BLASPHEMED, but on your part he is GLORIFIED” – The non-believers who are persecuting the Christians will most likely use bad language, curse and swear, and use God’s name and the name of Jesus in vain and in a non-respectful manner. The dictionary defines “blasphemy” as **insulting or showing contempt, or lack of reverence for God**. Although we may be grieved by hearing people use God’s name as a swear word and blaspheming Him in many ways, **God will ultimately be GLORIFIED by our reaction and our testimony as we endure persecution and unfair treatment at their hands**. The Apostle Paul refers to himself as **having been a “blasphemer”** before he got saved, and I think many of us have come from that place before we were saved, also.

●**I Timothy 1:12-13** “And I _____ Christ Jesus our Lord, who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry; although I was _____

a _____, and a _____, and an insolent man; but I obtained
_____, because I did it _____ in _____”