

## Scripture and Background Information for July 29- August 4

**Before Sunday, August 5**, we would like each group member to personally study **1 Peter 4:7-11** and to discuss it with their group. Group members should complete the **GOD'S WORDS** and **MY WORDS** columns in our new **Discussion Guide**.

### Background Information for 1 Peter 4:7-11

This is the beginning of our series "The End of the World (As We Know It)." First Peter was written to Christians who were experiencing persecution. Peter's audience were those whose identity with Jesus made them outcasts in their own culture. Peter's practical instructions and fatherly wisdom serve as a source of encouragement to all believers who stand in opposition to their culture.

Chapter 4 gives a picture and exhortation to live in Christlikeness in attitude, service, and faith. When Peter begins this section with "The end of all things is near" (v7), he is referring to his belief that the return of Christ could happen at any moment. The shortness of time is motivation to live for and serve Jesus Christ with the utmost importance.

The focus of the section is on service. Encouragement to endure suffering comes not only from a believer's future hope of Christ's return but also from the Christlike service of others within His body.

### ***The Summer of 10,000 Blessings, June 10 – August 19***

Our calling as Christ-followers is *to display and declare who God is and what He's like everywhere we go*. Join with us this summer in being intentional to find at least one way each week to BLESS someone who does not know Christ. Let's make a difference wherever we go! **Sign up by texting "Bless" to 33222**. We'll send you a weekly reminder and encouragement.

**Here is the Scripture for your group to discuss during the week of...**

**August 5 – August 11**

**Mark 13:14-23**

Background Information is posted weekly at <http://www.mckinneychurch.com/leaders>.