



The Epistles of Peter  
1 Peter 4:7-11  
From Sermon 1.25.26

Read *1 Peter 4:7-11*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: With urgency, Peter continues to admonish the Church regarding conduct in service to the Savior. These rich doctrines are leading toward a confrontation of false teachers delivering false gospels. It's so very easy for the church to slip into the selfish patterns of the world. But Christ was all about sacrificial love for His own. Continuing with the military analogies, we must be of sound thinking and mindset, grounded in the immutable Word of God and love for one another.

1. Peter's words could not be more counter-cultural and, sadly, more counter *church-cultural*. What has been the modern trend and movement regarding the status of the individual in the Church? Church is about me: my needs, my likes, my family, and my comfort. Because they are fed a false doctrine about God, they come to demand comforting, feel-good sermonettes, music, and expectations. Christian consumerism. See also *2 Peter 2:1-3 and Isaiah 30:9-11*

1a. How is this a direct result of Church leaders? They want the same thing. They cannot preach on sin, wrath, holiness, or sacrifice, because they 1) don't even know it, and 2) they would be condemning themselves and risking losing their influence and prosperity. Read *2 Timothy 3:1-2, 5, & 13*

2. Discuss how you've seen this in Church life or if you've fallen prey to it. \_\_\_\_\_

3. We again get this critical truth that conduct affects our strength. Here, we are called to sound thinking and a sober spirit. What was the inescapable pattern brought up on Sunday regarding sound thinking? It all begins with our view of sacred Scripture. That will determine our worldview and mindset. From Scripture to goes to our thinking—our thought process—how we understand things. It then flows to our actions and reactions to circumstances and people around us. See *Romans 12:1-3*.

4. Whose job is it to do ministry in the Church? Is Peter just writing here to ordained clergy? No. He is writing to all believers. Everyone is a minister. Everyone has a gift and a role in the local church. See *1 Corinthians 12:14-20*

5. Peter touches on our various roles of service in the local Church. God the Holy Spirit has him break it down into two categories of service. What were they? Speaking parts and Serving parts.

5a. What would be some ministries under each category?

Speaking

Peaching

Teaching

Singing

Evangelist

Serving

hospitality, greeting,

mercy, visits, outreach

tech, decorating, finances,

prayer, support, helps

6. How is this similar to the various needed roles in a military unit? A wide variety of skills and personnel are needed to keep things running. Not everyone is an infantryman. There is a need for leaders, tech, intel, medical, mechanics, & cooks.