

SERMON

DATE: Saturday/Sunday, August 11-12, 2018

SERMON TITLE: Living in the Meantime

SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 4:7-11

[7] The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray.

[8] Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.

[9] Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.

[10] Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

[11] If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

August 11-12, 2018

Title: Living in the Meantime

1. Live sensibly and soberly.

- The fruit of the Spirit is self-control.

2. Love without fail.

- Love is an action and a choice.
- Move from feeling to acting.
 - Acknowledge your feelings.
 - Ask God to help your actions.
 - Ask God to change your feelings.
- *Proverbs 10:12 Hatred stirs up conflicts, but love covers all offenses.*

3. Care for others and don't complain.

4. Use your abilities to please God.

Lagniappe

Sometimes we simply need to look again at the basics. Even those of us who have known Christ for many years need to hear again the fundamentals of the faith.

That seems to be what James the Apostle sought to do as he wrote his epistle "to the twelve tribes scattered among the nations" (James 1:1).

Next weekend, I and the other campus pastors, will begin a study of James. We are calling this new sermon series, "What Every Christian Needs." We are going to emphasize the ABC's of the faith.

Don't let the title fool you. The Book of James is a powerful letter that challenges all believers to live out their faith in joy in spite of the difficulties.

We believe that James is the first New Testament writing, having been written about AD 46. This would have been about fifteen years after the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus and shortly after many of the Jewish believers left Jerusalem over the intense persecution of the day. It's no wonder that James' first words have to do with living in joy in the midst of trials and temptations.

James' words strike deep into our hearts and lives. He calls for a faith that shows up in works. He reminds us of the importance of every believer and denounces our prejudices. He tells us about Scripture and prayer, telling us to draw near to God and God will draw near to us.

Let me encourage you to draw near to God and His Word through the Epistle of James. Make this an even better sermon series by beginning to read James day by day.

Please encourage others to attend as we consider the ABC's of what it means to live for Christ.