GENESIS TO REVELATION | LETTER LESSON

Using Gifts to Serve Others

1 Peter 4:7-11



YOUR BIBLE READING

God-given gifts are entrusted for service, loving welcome, and God's glory.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Prayer, Love, and a Welcome without Grumbling

1 Peter 4:7-11



First Peter is a letter written to encourage believers in the way they live together. This passage begins by saying that the end of all things is near and calling the readers to clear-minded, self-controlled prayer. The letter does not give them a date to calculate or tell them to panic. Its instruction turns their attention toward a thoughtful response to God and toward responsible conduct in the life before them.

Above all, the readers are urged to maintain earnest love for one another. The passage says that love covers many sins. That picture describes love's capacity to meet ordinary failures with mercy rather than constantly exposing them for humiliation. It does not mean hiding abuse, ignoring serious harm, or preventing someone from asking for protection. Care for a person includes truth and safety as well as patience when a relationship needs repair.

The next instruction is practical: offer hospitality without grumbling. Hospitality means making room for another person's welcome and needs. The words without grumbling ask the readers to consider the attitude joined to the action. An offered place can feel quite different if it comes with repeated complaints that make the guest feel unwanted. A faithful welcome should be more than permission to remain nearby while being treated as a burden.

These instructions belong together. Clear prayer, earnest love, and willing hospitality are ways a community can care for people rather than become consumed by anxiety or resentment. The passage is instruction from a letter, not a report of Peter preparing a particular meal. Its everyday direction is still concrete: attend to God, respond to other people with love, and let a welcome carry a genuine willingness to care.

Remember: A gift becomes useful through thoughtful care for others.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

Different Gifts, One Purpose of Service

1 Peter 4:7-11



The letter then speaks about gifts. Each person has received something to use in serving others. Believers are to be good managers of God's grace in its many forms. A manager cares for something entrusted to them rather than pretending to own its whole purpose. Gifts are therefore not trophies for ranking people. Their value is connected to how they can serve the needs of the community with which they are shared.

The passage names speaking and serving. Someone who speaks should treat the words with the seriousness of speaking God's message. That does not mean every sentence a believer says becomes Scripture or that a confident speaker cannot be questioned. It calls for care with what is taught. Words given to guide others should be faithful rather than careless, and listeners deserve truth rather than a performance designed to make the speaker seem important.

Someone who serves should do so with the strength God supplies. The purpose is that God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom glory and power belong. Service is not a way for the helper to claim that everyone else must be impressed. The instruction directs attention beyond the person's status toward God and toward the people helped. Speaking and practical work can both belong to this shared purpose.

Here is an ordinary example, separate from the letter's original setting. A group preparing a gathering may need someone to explain the activity and someone else to arrange the supplies. Both tasks can help. A suitable plan also includes rest, different abilities, and adult responsibility. The lesson is not that everyone should take every job, but that what is entrusted to a person can be used thoughtfully for the good of others.

Pause and think: Which suitable gift or skill could you share in a way that helps someone without exhausting you?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Use a Gift without Taking All the Jobs



What is one thing you are learning to do that could help another person? It might involve clear words, careful hands, a patient ear, or remembering where supplies belong. You do not need to call yourself the best before sharing something useful. Ask an adult which task fits your age and abilities, and accept guidance about how to do it safely.

Hospitality does not require a child to open a door to an unknown adult or handle a stranger's needs alone. Trusted adults are responsible for decisions about visitors and safety. You can help with an agreed preparation or offer a friendly greeting when appropriate. A good welcome respects the safety and boundaries of everyone involved, including the person who is helping.

Earnest love can include an apology after an impatient word. It can also include telling an adult when something harmful has happened. Covering ordinary mistakes with mercy is different from covering up abuse. As you think about the letter's call to service, keep love, truth, and sensible limits together. The aim is useful care, not exhaustion or silence about a problem.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

Use what God entrusts to you for thoughtful service, loving welcome, and truthful care.

Which suitable gift or skill could you share in a way that helps someone without exhausting you?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. How should gifts be used?

2. Does love covering sins mean hiding serious harm?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ Speaking and serving are directed toward God's glory through Jesus.
- ☐ The letter encourages thoughtful prayer, earnest love, and hospitality.
- ☐ Each person is urged to use received gifts in serving others.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw different suitable gifts helping one gathering, with time and space for everyone to rest.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

A gift becomes useful through thoughtful care for others.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: 1 Peter 4:8-11

A thoughtful conversation

The passage calls for prayer, love, hospitality, and service without supplying a timetable for the end. Love covering sins must never mean secrecy about abuse or preventing safeguarding. Children need suitable roles, rest, and adult oversight of visitors. Explain speaking God's message as responsibility for truthful teaching, not a claim that every believer's words are automatically Scripture.

Activity answers

1. To serve others as a responsible use of God's grace.
2. No. Love includes truth, protection, and asking responsible adults for help.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 1, 2. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, help us use our gifts with truth, love, wise limits, and care for others. Amen.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

English retellings, lessons, reflections and activities by DigiPick (2026), based on 1 Peter 4:7-11. Source checked with the public-domain World English Bible. Illustration: original symbolic vector artwork by DigiPick.store; a learning aid, not an additional Bible event.
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