

# Everyday Priorities

Pray



Love



Serve



Stewardship Weekend 2026



# 1<sup>st</sup> Peter in a nutshell...

Written to guide the church that was trying to figure out how to live a godly life in the midst of a society that did not hold to the same beliefs.

- **1 Pet 2:11-17** - On general conduct and civic duty.
- **1 Pet 2:18-3:7** - On conduct within the household.
- **1 Pet 3:8-22** - On the church's conduct and response to hostility.
- **1 Pet 4:1-11** - On the church's conduct in the end times.



“The end of all things is at hand...” (1 Peter 4:7a)



1 Pet 4:7-11 highlights everyday priorities that Christians need to give attention to.

“The end of all things is at hand; **therefore** be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers” - 1 Peter 4:7



# For the sake of your prayers...

## Self-controlled

**Literal Meaning:** To be of sound mind, in one's right mind.

**Nuance:** This word emphasizes emotional balance and mental sanity - the ability to properly assess a situation without losing your head. The opposite of this state is being driven by irrational passions, hysteria, panic, or frenzy.



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## Sober-minded

**Literal Meaning:** To be free from the influence of intoxicants.

**Nuance:** Metaphorically, this refers to a mind that is alert and vigilant. The opposite of this state is spiritual stupor, lethargy, having your senses dulled by the distractions and pleasures of the world.



**'Remove this cup from me.  
Yet not what I will,  
but what you will.'**

STOWEN

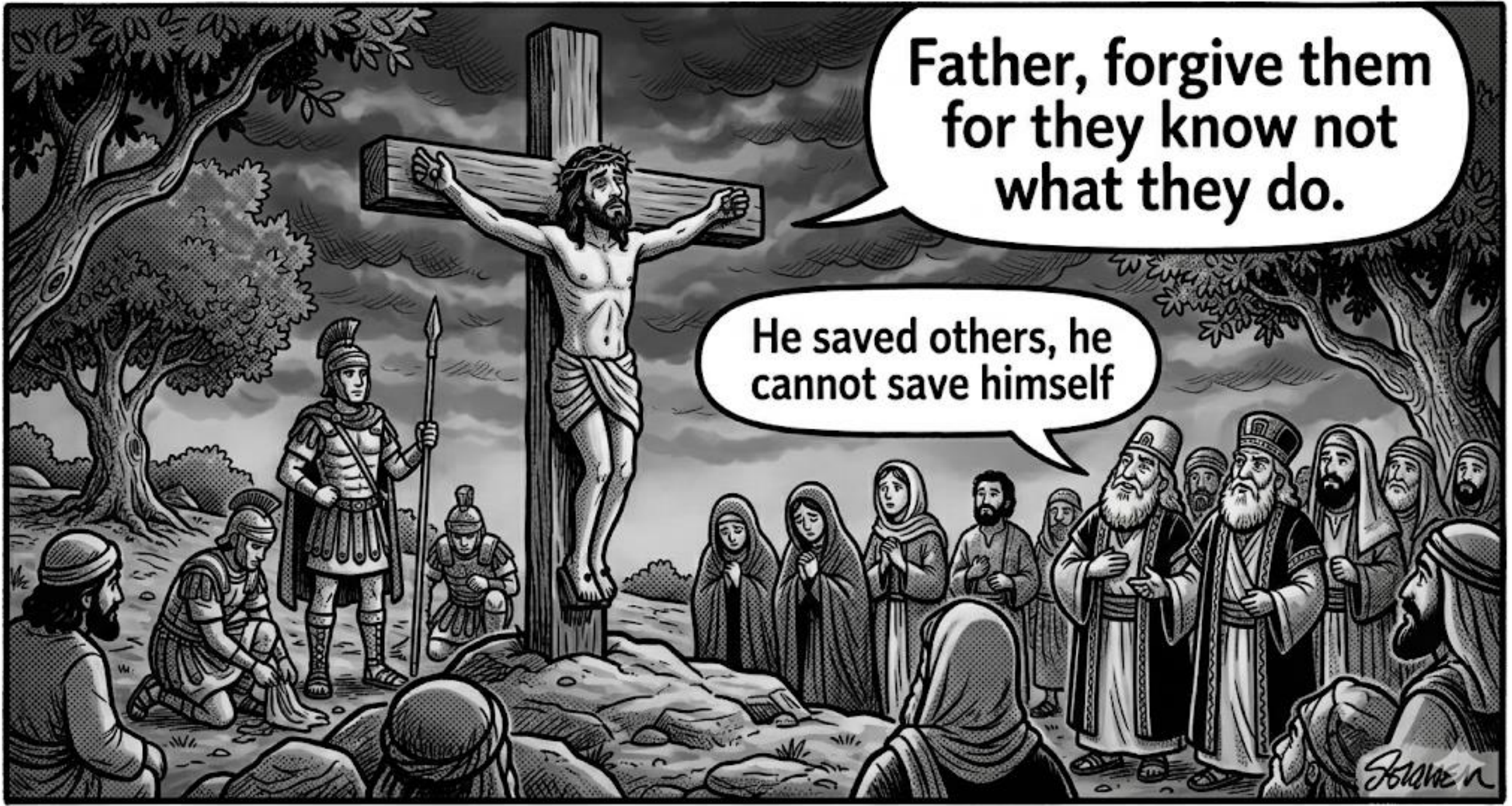
# ♥ Love one another

- Love is commanded because it is not about the emotions, but a decision of the will leading to action.
- Our love should be fervent – like an athlete straining to reach his goal.
- Our love should be forgiving and gracious... bearing with one another's faults.



“Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.”

- 1 Pet 4:8



Father, forgive them  
for they know not  
what they do.

He saved others, he  
cannot save himself

JOHANNES

# Radical Hospitality...

- Hospitality = Loving Strangers
- Was often assumed during the ministry of Jesus
- Was also essential in supporting itinerant teachers/evangelist



“Show hospitality to one another without grumbling.”

1 Pet 4:9



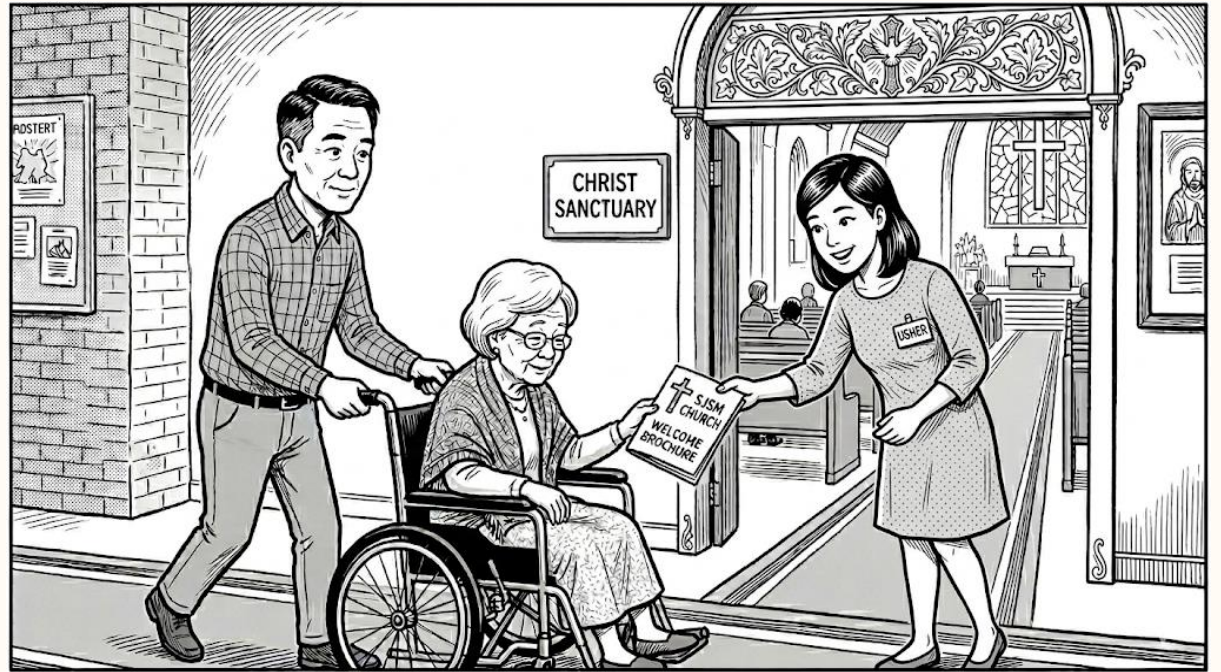
# God's Radical Hospitality to us

“So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God”

- Eph 2:19

# Serve one another

- There are many areas that require people to step forward to serve.
- We are called to serve according to our gifts
- Gifts are not simply skills, but the things God has given us in this season of life.



“<sup>10</sup> As each has received a gift, use it to **serve one another**, as good stewards of God’s varied grace...”

- 1 Pet 4:10



# No Longer Strangers

by Jason Swan Clark

“Strangers hover at and around the edges. They are polite but guarded. They do not assume belonging...

Many of us live more like this than we

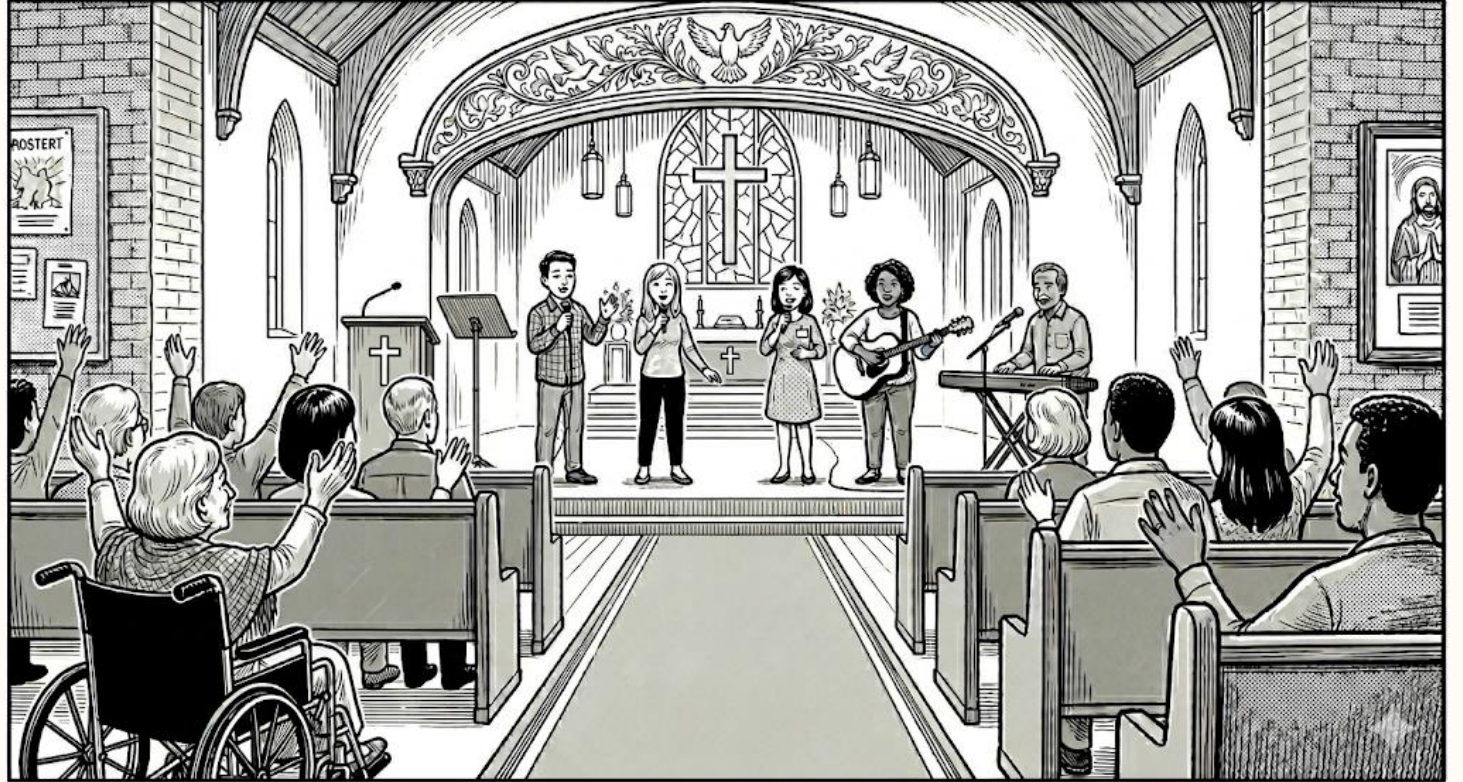
realize. We attend, contribute, even serve – but remain slightly detached... We operate as if belonging were provisional, and optional...

In Christ, you are not a visitor. You are a citizen, more than that, you are a member of God’s household. That is intimate language. Household implies shared life, shared rhythms, shared responsibility as family. It means you are expected. You matter. Your presence shapes and is required for the whole of the household life.”



# God works through us

We should use our gifts with the confidence that God is working through us to bless others - that He may be glorified.



“Whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies - in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.” - 1 Pet 4:11