

# Welcome to Calvary Church, Brighton



**This morning (11:00) and this evening (18:30) we will be continuing to think about different gifts and ministries within the church.**

***Speaker - Philip Wells, Brighton***

***[www.calvary-brighton.org.uk](http://www.calvary-brighton.org.uk)***

***Sermons and talks - [calvary-brighton.sermon.net](http://calvary-brighton.sermon.net)***

***The background is a picture of a man building a house by fitting stones together***

# Standing orders for service - 1 Peter 4:7-12

1. Note the "bookends"

v.7 the end of all things is at hand

v.11 to him be the glory and power for ever and  
ever Amen

=> and everything in between!

=> that's us!

# Standing orders for service - 1 Peter 4:7-12

2. Note the pervading context  
(e.g. Pilates - keep breathing)

a. pray!

- You need to be "sound mind" & "sober"
- = clear thinking, and on the look-out
- N.B. sometimes people make spirituality go in the direction of irrationality / no-thinking
- But Peter does not (like the other apostles)
- ==> we've been praying
- ==> let's continue to keep praying
- ==> let's be focused and thoughtful

# Standing orders for service - 1 Peter 4:7-12

2. Note the pervading context  
(e.g. Pilates - keep breathing)

b. love one another

- “above all” = paramount importance
  - e.g. money/ticket/passport
- Deeply ~ stretched out
  - Like a rubber band
  - Like blowing up a balloon ... keep puffing!
  - ==> keep loving ...
- “covers over a great number of sins”
  - Damp patches and mould in bathroom??
  - ~ sins, deficiencies, disappointments, allowances
  - ==> LOVE

# Standing orders for service - 1 Peter 4:7-12

2. Note the pervading context  
(e.g. Pilates - keep breathing)

c. hospitality one another

- Philo - xenos (xenophobia)
- Perhaps you can't , perhaps you can!
- = sociable, generous, sharing
- = doesn't need to be posh / foody /sumptuous
- "without grumbling"
  - {they never invited me back!!}
  - ==> very practical and down-to-earth

a. prayer b. love c. hospitality



Standing orders for service - 1 Peter 4:7-12

3a. Note the assumption of gifts

"each one has received a gift"

(= each one is part of the body)

=> no-one should say "I have nothing to offer"

# Standing orders for service - 1 Peter 4:7-12

3b. Note the division of gifts

i.e. "speaks" .... v.11

& "serves" v.11

- two sensible categories ... words / deeds

i.e. word gifts, serving gifts

- there may be overlap
- But no-one is neither

And these gifts have diversity ("in its various forms" = diverse [diseases] = multicoloured)

And it's all grace (v.11)

- Write it over the top of the door!

# Standing orders for service - 1 Peter 4:7-12

## 3b. Note the **use of gifts**

i.e. "speaks" ... as speaking the very-words of God

- Conscientiously ... not flippantly
- With weight ... not unconcernedly
- Reverently ... not hypocritically

i.e. serves ... with the strength that God supplies

- e.g. hard week ... many demands ... physically and mentally demanding
- God does not do the work for you, but gives the strength for you to do it.



## Standing orders for service - 1 Peter 4:7-12

### 4. Note the end result of the gifts

"to that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ"

- people think we are great NO
- people enjoy themselves and have great experiences - PERHAPS
- God may be praised through Jesus Christ - DEFINITELY

# Standing orders for service - 1 Peter 4:7-12

1. bookends - it's us

2. context

- Pray
- Love
- Hospitality
- ==> let's keep doing those

3. Gifts

- a. Assumption
- b. Division: word gifts / service gifts
  - Multicoloured grace!
- Speak as God's words, serve with God's strength
- ==> let's be quietly confident as we serve one another

4. Use

- ==> so that in all things God is praised!