Living Near the end - 1 Peter 4: 7-11

1. **Christian belief concerning the end**:
   1. Jewish understanding
   2. The disciples’ questions
   3. Apostolic preaching
   4. The biblical teaching [ 2 Peter 3]
      1. It is near
      2. It is in God’s time
      3. It is certain
      4. It is delayed
      5. It is crucial
2. **Christian behaviour considering the end**
   1. **Keep a cool head** [4:7]
      1. Don’t panic
      2. Do pray
   2. **Keep a steady balance** [1 Peter 4:7; 2 Peter 3: 8-10]
      1. Avoid the lethargy of unbelief
      2. Avoid the extremes of unbalance
   3. **Keep a warm heart** [1 Peter 4:8]
      1. Love – the supreme Christian virtue
      2. Love – the stretching Christian experience
      3. Love – the sheltering Christian response
   4. **Keep an open house** [v. 9]
      1. Houses – the centre of worship
      2. Houses – the aids to mission
      3. Houses – the refuge for the needy
   5. **Keep a faithful attitude** [v. 10]
      1. God’s grace has been distributed to all
      2. God’s grace varies from person to person
      3. God’s grace is given for the benefit of others
      4. God’s grace is given as a trust
   6. **Keep a pure message** [v. 11]
      1. The priviledge of hearing God’s word
      2. The pleasure of doing God’s word
      3. The pressure of sharing God’s word
   7. **Keep a powerful witness** [v. 11b]
      1. The witness of being a servant of God
      2. The witness of showing the strength of God
      3. The witness of praising the Son of God