

**October 8th, The Prerequisite**  
**Part 1 in the series “Getting Ripe with God”**

What were some things from this message that resonated with you?

Was there anything you wrestled with?

What comes to mind when you hear “The end of all things is near”?

In light of the end, what are Peter’s instructions to his readers?

Do you find it difficult to love others when you are carrying a heavy load?

**Matthew 24:12-13** “Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.”

What are some things that cause love (for God and for others) to grow cold?

**Galatians 5:22-23** “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”

Jim said we can have lots of leaves without any real fruit. What are some things you would consider to be leaves?

How could it be counterproductive to try to produce the fruit of the Spirit on our own power?

What do you think of the idea that humility is the soil in which the fruit of the Spirit grows?