

## LOVE MATTERS MOST

what  
**REALLY**  
matters

**1 Peter 1:22-25, ESV** – <sup>22</sup> Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, <sup>23</sup> since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; <sup>24</sup> for “All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, <sup>25</sup> but the word of the Lord remains forever.” And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

### Notes:

1.

2.

3.

# SERMON-BASED STUDY

For the week of May 31, 2020

1 Peter 1:22-25

## QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

## ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

1 This weekend we were taught that we should love others with earnest purity. How are we to develop a pure heart that loves others earnestly?

2 How do faith and hope relate to love?

3 Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. Share a time when you have seen this kind of love in action.

## DIGGING DEEPER

**A** **Romans 1:1-6, ESV** – Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup> which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, <sup>3</sup> concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup> and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, <sup>5</sup> through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, <sup>6</sup> including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

**Romans 6:16-19, ESV** – <sup>16</sup> Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? <sup>17</sup> But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, <sup>18</sup> and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. <sup>19</sup> I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

4 1 Peter 1:22 tells us that purity of heart begins with obedience to the truth. Looking at the passages above, how is obedience brought about in a person's life?

5 What are the teachings and commands that believers need to obey? (Start with the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew, chapters five to seven)

6 What areas, listed in #5, are you doing well? What areas need improvement? What next steps do you need to take to be more obedient in these areas?

**B** **Colossians 1:3-6, ESV** – <sup>3</sup> We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, <sup>4</sup> since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, <sup>5</sup> because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, <sup>6</sup> which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth.

**Titus 2:11-15, ESV** – <sup>11</sup> For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, <sup>12</sup> training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, <sup>13</sup> waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup> who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works. <sup>15</sup> Declare these things; exhort and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

7 When reading about our love for the saints (believers), we see that it is grounded in our hope for the future. How does our hope for the future provide a foundation on which we can love others?

8 What other actions are we called to do in our present context, based on this foundation of hope?

9 In Titus 2:14, we read that Jesus “purifies for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.” What does it mean to be zealous? What “good works” is Paul referring to? How are you doing in this area?

## TAKING IT HOME

This week, we were reminded that love matters the most. At the same time, love is built on our obedience to, and hope in, the truth. What areas do you need to be more obedient to the truth? What areas do you need more hope in the truth? Share with your group or accountability partner and pray for a heart of reverence, holiness and obedience to the Judge.

## PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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## FOR FURTHER STUDY

Isaiah 40:6-8

Romans 8:23-25, 29

Galatians 5:5-6

Ephesians 1:18

Colossians 1:23

1 John 5:1-5