

ALIENS

THE BOOK OF FIRST PETER

Love Deeply 1 Peter 1:22-2:3

To love deeply requires...

◆ Constant growth.

Feed on the Word to increase your capacity to love.

◆ Constant stretching.

Love when it is tough to increase your capacity to love.

◆ Constant examination.

Take off ugliness to increase your capacity to love.

Getting Started: List some of your favorite songs about love. What do these songs suggest that love requires? What other messages to these songs send about love?

Digging In: Why do you think Peter chooses to talk about love at this point in His letter (see also 2:;17; 3:8; 4:8)? What do these verses (Jn 13:34-35; 15:17; 1Jn 3:14-19; 4:7,12,20-21) tell you about the importance of loving other believers? What commands are given by Peter in this passage? What is the relationship between the Word and love? Why does Peter insist the Word as living and enduring and then quotes Is 40:6-8 (vs 24-25)? Give a specific example of each hindrance to love listed in 2vs1-2.

Living It Out: What is the hardest lesson you have had to learn about love? Memorize verse 1:22. How will you seek to allow the word to give you food for love this week? In what situation can you love where it is not easy this week? Make a list of unloving attitudes and words that you have seen in your own life lately?

MEMORY VERSES

³Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you, *1 Peter 1:3-4*

²²Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart.

1 Peter 1:22

⁹But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. *1 Peter 2:9*

¹⁴But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened." ¹⁵But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, *1 Peter 3:14-15*

¹²Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. *1 Peter 4:12-13*

⁶Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

⁸Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. *1 Peter 5:6-8*