



Sermon Guide

September 29th, 2024

Love One Another

Billy Haines, Senior Pastor

When you think about the call to be holy, what comes to mind? Obedience perhaps. Commitment. Devotion. Maybe we think about worship. In the sermon this week Pastor Billy addresses something that might be missing in our understanding of holiness – love! It’s no mistake that as Peter calls the church to be holy “as God is holy,” he immediately addresses the need for us to love one another deeply.

1 Peter 1:22-25

²² Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, ²³ since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; ²⁴ for

“All flesh is like grass

and all its glory like the flower of grass.

The grass withers,

and the flower falls,

²⁵ but the word of the Lord remains forever.”

And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

Sermon Notes

Intro

#1 What It Is

#2 Where It Comes From

3 Approaches to the Christian Life

- Christ And Then Me
- Christ Not Me
- Christ In Me

#3 How We Get It

Discussion Questions

1. What was your biggest takeaway from the sermon this week?
2. What might happen to us as individuals (and to the church) if we forget about love in our pursuit of holiness?
3. In verse 22, Peter speaks about having “purified your souls by your obedience to the truth.” How do you think obedience to the truth leads to a *sincere* love for others?
4. What does it mean to love one another “earnestly from a pure heart?” How is this kind of love different from other types of love?
5. In the sermon Pastor Billy identified three aspects of love:
 - Love is more than mere obedience.
 - Love is sincere.
 - Love is earnest.

In which of these three areas of love would you most like to grow? How so?

6. In the sermon Pastor Billy identified three basic approaches to the Christian life:
 - Approach #1: Christ And Then Me
 - Approach #2: Christ, Not Me
 - Approach #3: Christ In Me

Spend some time discussing each approach. Which is the greater temptation for you, Approach #1 or Approach #2? Why do you think this is?

7. How does knowing that we have been “born again” and our lives are rooted in the living and abiding word of God encourage us to love others deeply?
8. What are some practical ways we can encourage each other to love one another more earnestly and from a pure heart?