



## Sermon Notes

### 1Peter 1:22-2:3 "Sincere Love"

1John gives us three tests for genuine Christianity: Doctrinal test (1Jn5:1), Moral test (1Jn3:9) & Social test (1Jn4:7). It is possible to have both doctrinal accuracy & moral integrity and not be a loving person. "By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."-Jn13:35

### What is Sincere Love?

- **It is loving other Christians like family.** V22 sincere brotherly love... Rom12:10; Heb13:1; 1Jn3:16-18; Acts2:42-47, 4:32-35
- **It is a love we are utterly incapable of doing.** V23 since you have been born again... Jn1:12-13; 2Pet1:3
- **It is a love alive & growing in God's love.** v22 Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth... vv2:1-2 Put away all... Eph4:31-32, 5:1-2; 1Jn4:7-12

### How to Sincerely Love?

- **You don't fight or flight but you face conflict.** V22 sincere love...earnestly from a pure heart. Eph4:26-27; Heb12:15; Matt5:21-26, 18:15-17
- **You deal with conflict as a sinner saved by grace.** V22 Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth...Eph2:4-5
- **You speak the truth in love.** V22 "sincere brotherly love" = truthful love, "love one another earnestly" = strenuous love. Eph4:15, 25

V2:3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. (Ps34:8)

**Love is measured by three indicators:** 1) Identity of the lover (the greater the lover the greater the love). 2) The object of that love (the lesser the object the greater the love). 3) The expression of that love (the greater the expression the more marvelous the love). (John3:16)

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.-Eph.5:1-2

## Growing Notes

1) 1John gives us three tests for genuine Christianity: Doctrinal test (1Jn5:1), Moral test (1Jn3:9) & Social test (1Jn4:7). Why do you think it is possible to have both doctrinal accuracy & moral integrity and not be a loving person? What is a disciple and what did Jesus say will be the most important mark of His disciple (John13:35)?

2) Read 1Peter 1:22-3:2. What stands out to you? What do you think it means that sincere love is loving other Christians like family (v22; Rom12:10; Heb13:1; 1Jn3:16-18; Acts2:42-47, 4:32-35)? Why do you think that we're utterly incapable of meeting the needs of other Christians in our local church community with the same amount of thought, emotion and action that we would meet our own families' needs, apart from being alive and growing in God's love for us (2Pet1:3; 1Jn4:7-12)?

3) When people offend you, hurt you, or despitefully use you what is your natural sinful response: Fight (open aggression) or Flight (closed aggression)? Successful people are able to confront (face) conflict well because they have good anger management skills (Eph4:26-27; Heb12:15). Explain. How do you think a sinner (humble) saved by grace (confidence) will face conflict? Who should make the 1<sup>st</sup> move the offended or the offender (Matt5:21-26, 18:15-17)?

4) What does it mean to speak the truth in love and why is it important (Eph4:15, 25)? How is the Cross of Christ *both radical truthfulness about who we are and yet also God's radical, unconditional commitment to us*? Take a few minutes and review the sermon notes on the three indicators love is measured by. What does this tell us about God's love? What should motivate our sincere love (Eph.5:1-2)? Pray that db is a place of sincere love.