

SMALL GROUP / STUDY GUIDE

SCRIPTURE

Read 1 Peter 1:22

KEY TRUTH

Because Jesus has loved us extravagantly, we can love one another sincerely and fervently.

OBSERVATION QUESTIONS

(What does the passage say?)

- What does Peter say has happened to those who have obeyed the truth?
- What purpose or result of this cleansing does Peter identify?
- How does Peter describe the love believers should already have for one another?
- What command does Peter give at the end of the verse?
- What words or ideas does Peter use to describe the kind of love Christians should demonstrate?

INTERPRETATION QUESTIONS

(What does the passage mean?)

- What does Peter mean by “sincere” love? How is sincere love different from conditional, transactional, or performative love?
- The word translated “fervently” describes love that is earnest, intense, and fully engaged. What does that reveal about the kind of love Peter is commanding?
- What does it mean to love someone “from a pure heart,” without a hidden agenda or expectation of receiving something in return?

- Why do you think Peter connects being cleansed by the truth with loving one another?
- How does loving others sincerely and fervently demonstrate that our hope in Jesus is real?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

(What does this mean for us?)

- The message described “fish love” as loving someone primarily for what they provide or how they make us feel. Where are you most tempted to love people this way?
- Have you ever been wounded by love that proved conditional, transactional, or performative? How has that experience affected the way you relate to others?
- Where does your love need to stretch beyond feelings into commitment, beyond convenience into sacrifice, or beyond offense into forgiveness?
- Who is particularly difficult for you to love right now? What would sincere and fervent love toward that person look like?
- The message said that Jesus is not merely the example of genuine love; He is also its source. Why is it important to receive and rest in His love before trying to give that love to others?

PERSONAL REFLECTION

Take a moment and ask:

- Is there someone God is calling you to love more sincerely or fervently?
- What is one specific way you can allow the love of Jesus to overflow through you this week?

PRACTICE FOR THE WEEK

Choose one person and intentionally love them in a way that costs you something. Listen, forgive, encourage, serve, give, or simply show up without expecting recognition or repayment.

PRAYER

Thank Jesus for the extravagant love He demonstrated at the cross. Ask Him to fill you with His love and help it overflow through you toward the people He has placed in your life.