

**Peoples Church Small Group Questions**  
**SANCTUARY: Hope for refugees – Week Three**  
**Pastor Dale Oquist**  
**May 7, 2017**

***Looking Back:*** 1 Peter 1:22-25

In this passage, Peter is writing to the people who had been deported from Rome to Turkey. They had faced persecution, threats and even death. Many had been martyred for their faith, but Peter is offering them hope.

1. Peter doesn't offer the people hope for a change in their circumstances, but a hope for what?

Psalm 51:5 “Surely, I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.”

***Digging Deeper:***

When we are first born in the world, we are natural born sinners. We aren't connected to God but disconnected from God; unless we choose to be born again through God.

When we are born again we are spiritually and supernaturally born brand new.

2. What is the Doctrine of Regeneration?

God gives us a new heart, new desires, and a new life; which is known as regeneration. We can't take any credit for regeneration.

3. How is it possible to obey the command to love one another deeply?

***Taking It Home:***

The Word of God is sharp and alive. It imparts purposeful life and spiritual power to us. It imparts life to us because it's a living document. Get into the living Word of God, because although we physically breathe in oxygen to live on Earth, our spiritual souls need to breathe in the living Word to nurture and feed us for a life of eternity.

4. What is the difference between natural relationships vs. supernatural relationships?

We need to treat others the way God treats others.

5. When is the last time you loved someone (other than your family) deeply?

We must remember that love is not an emotion, it's a decision. Out of hope flows love.

***Let's pray...***

We've been commanded to love one another deeply, you've given us a new birth, new purpose, new identity, new heart, new desires. Out of that, may we love like you've called us to love. Change us into something new as we make practical decisions to love each other deeply through the living Word of God.

Matthew 24:35 “Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.”

**Bonus question.....**

Pastor Dale said that 20 minutes of preaching isn't a sermon it's merely an \_\_\_\_\_.