SERMON STUDY



REFLECT

1. Just for fun, what was one unexpected highlight or blessing from 2020?

ENCOUNTER

The apostle Peter wrote 1 Peter to Christians dispersed around Asia Minor to show how the gospel empowers them to live well in a world of suffering. Before Christians can live well in the world, they must live well with one another. So Peter commands believers to love one another because they are all born into the same spiritual family. Chapter 2 begins to expand on loving relationships by listing sins that can harm our love for one another. Read and discuss 1 Peter 2:1-3.

- 2. Work through Peter's list of sins that destroy community. How would you define and illustrate each of the terms?
- 3. Why are these particular sins so destructive to Christian community?
- 4. 1 Peter 1:24 teaches us that spiritual *birth* happens when the word of God is planted within us. 1 Peter 2:2 goes on to remind us that spiritual *growth* happens through the word. Discuss Paul's illustration in 2:2. Why is it a good illustration for growth through the word?
- 5. How do you develop a desire for something? How can you learn to long for God's word?

TRANSFORM

- 6. What community-destroying sin do you think is the most dangerous for your relationships? What must you do to rid yourself of it?
- 7. What is your plan tomorrow to "taste and see" that the Lord is good?

PRAYER REQUESTS