

One of the most misunderstood and missing characteristics of the church
1 Peter 1:22-25

1 Peter 1:22–25 (ESV)

***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.*

Sincere brotherly love for one another is a defining characteristic of those who have been born again.

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Christians love one another intentionally, sacrificially, and truthfully.

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God’s commands are rooted in His saving and transforming work, especially the command to love one another.

Salvation, or being born again, is a work of the Holy Spirit...

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Salvation, or being born again, is a work of the Holy Spirit through the Word of God.

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God transforms the lives of sinners through faith in Jesus Christ through the preaching of the gospel.

A handful of observations & applications before we go:

1. The members of your church are the people you practice the "one another's" with.
2. Being with the gathered church less, is bad for your walk with the Lord.
3. The goals of the Christian life do not change, regardless of circumstances.
4. The contrast between the love in the church and the selfishness of the world is a witness to the goodness and glory of God.
5. The greatest display of love the world has ever seen is the death of Jesus Christ for sinners.