



Meaningful Membership
I will protect the unity of my church!
April 27, 2025

1 Peter 1:22–25

²²Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart,

²³since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; ⁴for “All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls,

²⁵but the word of the Lord remains forever.” And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

John 13:34–35

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Romans 12:9–10

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

*How do you build a strong, enduring church
amidst a hostile culture?*

Love one another!

John 13:34-35. Also see: Romans 13:8–10; Galatians 5:14; 6:2; James 2:8; Matthew 22:37-40; 1 Cor. 13:4-7

→ Four ways to “love one another”:

1) Always pursue purity!

*Having **purified** your souls by your obedience to the truth (22a) from a **pure** heart, (22b); James 2:1-4; Proverbs 4:23*

Pure – unpolluted from selfishness and self-exaltation!

* a ditch: Don’t be a hypocrite or double minded!
*a **sincere** brotherly love (v.22c)*

2) Always be a friend!

***brotherly love** (v.22c)*

*Love one another with **brotherly affection**. (Rom. 12:10)*

> affectionate. Kind. Friendly. A companion

John 15:12-15

3) Always be diligent and eager!

love one another earnestly ((v.22)

> to reach out or stretch!

Hebrews 10:24-25; Luke 22:44; Acts 12:5

Love will build an enduring church in a hostile culture!

1 Peter 1:23-25; John 13:34-35

Application questions on the back →

--- Love will build an enduring church in a hostile culture! ---

April 27, 2025

SUNDAY after church...

Think through your morning and: 1) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you were able to give! 2) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you received! 3) List songs or lyrics that touched your heart.

MONDAY

READ Sunday's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTED** Read John 13:34-35 again. Write out your observations on how this new command affects the stability of a local church.

PRAY: Pray over your observations and applications.

TUESDAY

READ Sunday's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** *Pure* or *to purify* means to be unpolluted. Many things can pollute our love for one another. List some that you need to watch out for. Read Proverbs 4:23 after you write your list. **PRAY:** Pray over your observations and applications.

WEDNESDAY

READ Sunday's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** Someone said, when looking for a new church, "We're looking for friends, not friendly". Write out what you think they mean by this. What is the difference between the two? **Pray:** Pray over your applications. **Pray:** Pray over your applications.

THURSDAY and FRIDAY

READ Sunday's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** To love earnestly, means to be reaching, stretching out towards others. This would for sure be the opposite of neglecting to meet together. From our study of 1 Peter 1:22-25, write out how you can remind yourself of being eager and diligent to reach out to others in love.

Pray: Pray over your applications.

SATURDAY

Prepare your heart for Sunday's gathering by being ready to fully engage in the worship.