Agape love is called "cruciform love," the love of God demonstrated through Christ's death the cross. Look at the following passages. What does God's love for us teach us about loving others?

- John 15:12-13
- Romans 5:8
- 1 John 3:16-18
- 1 John 4:9-11

What do we learn in this passage about our new life in Christ? How are we born again (1:23-25)?

How can our priorities reflect the fact that our lives are temporary while God's Word is eternal?

What has the living and enduring word of God accomplished in your life?

How should we live and love differently because of these truths?

Live It!

Who in our First Free family could use an expression of Christ-like love from you?

How will you tangibly demonstrate love in action this week?

Outline some steps you could take to grow in your love in the coming week.

Studies in First Peter

Love One Another 1 Peter 1:22-25 Sunday, June 21, 2020

Sermon Proposition

Grow in your love for each other as members of God's family. What words characterize your love for others?

Sincere Love

Deep Love

Enduring Love

My Next Step:

Studies in First Peter

Discussion Guide 1 Peter 1:22-25

Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart. ²³ For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. ²⁴ For,

"All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, ²⁵but the word of the Lord endures forever." And this is the word that was preached to you.

1 Peter 1:22-25 (NIV)

Open It

St. Augustine observes, "To ascertain the quality of a people examine what they love." What do Americans love? What does this tell us about our culture?

Consider It

Sometimes we think we are pure if we avoid contamination. What action led to purity for Peter's readers (1:22)? What should we learn from this?

Peter uses two different words for love in this passage. The love of verse 22 is brotherly love (philadelphia). The love commanded in verse 23 is unconditional love (agape). What is the difference between the two?