

**Sermon:** The Power of God's Word to Change Us  
**Series:** 1 Peter: Hardships, Holiness, and Hope

**Scripture:** 1 Peter 1:22-2:3  
**Date:** September 20, 2020

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**OBSERVATION** -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

**INTERPRETATION** -- Answer these questions together:

**1) What does this passage teach us about God?**

a) How is God's word described in this text?

b) How does Peter connect the word of God to the life of God? Why is this so important for us to understand as Christians?

**2) What does this passage teach us about us (mankind)?**

a) The goal of our salvation/holiness is genuine love from a pure heart. Where have you seen your life in Christ producing love for others lately?

b) Read 2:1. How is this list of vices the opposite of earnest love? Can you see any of these vices sneaking into your own heart lately?

**3) What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?**

a) Look at 2:22 again. How is our salvation described in this verse? What is the natural result of our salvation?

b) How does the gospel empower us to truly love from a pure heart (without selfishness or manipulation). How does our salvation empower us to "put it away" the sins in 2:1?

**APPLICATION**

a) How can you cultivate a "longing" for the "spiritual milk" of God's word? How is a desire for the Bible connected to a desire for Jesus/God?

**FIGHTER VERSES: 1 Peter 1:3-9.**

**PRAYER**

Thank God for his new life in you.

Repent of ways that you have failed to love others (consider 2:1).

Ask God to give you a deeper longing for his word, and a pure love for others.