Introduction

“Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart.” 1 Peter 1:22

We are called to be:

- Hopeful
- Holy
- Reverent
- Loving

I. Love must be sincere. Verses 22-25

The word sincere is un-hypocritical.

Love must be genuine.

What is the connection between the Word of God and love?

Peter calls the Word an imperishable seed.

Just like a seed, it has the power to produce life and bear fruit.

II. Love must be active. Verse 22

“Love one another deeply, from the heart.”

Love is the word “agape” which means unconditionally.

The word deeply means earnestly or fervently.

It is not just saying we love someone. It is showing it in our attitude and actions.

“If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.” 1 John 3:17-18

Such love isn’t always easy, but it is powerful.
III. Love must be growing. Verses 1-3

God’s love changes us.

“Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind.”

Each of these qualities is unloving.

- Love doesn’t delight in someone’s misfortune.
- Love doesn’t deceive people or mislead them.
- Love isn’t phony.
- Love doesn’t envy what others have.
- Love doesn’t gossip or slander and put others down.

When we sin, we need to confess it to God.

On the other side, we need to keep growing in the Word.

Do you hunger for the Word like a new born baby cries for milk?

Conclusion

How are we to live in a fallen world with trials and suffering?

- We live with hope.
- We walk in holiness.
- We honor God with reverence.
- We love our brothers and sisters as Christ loves us.