

Love Fervently

The apostle Peter wrote two epistles where we will learn about love and how he discovered this love. His original readers were followers of Jesus who were persecuted, marginalized for their faith – and Peter wanted to set their minds right about who they were (1 Peter 1:1-2). He also wanted to set their priorities in order, reminding that they keep fervent love for one another (1 Peter 4:8). We will not be looking as much on the “how” but go back to “why” we are to love each other fervently. Peter gives us three reasons:

New Identity

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Short Time

Peter wanted to keep reminding the believers of the need to live for Jesus until His time to depart this life. Jesus Himself told Peter about his eventual death (2 Peter 1:12-15, John 21:18-19). Peter knew that life on earth is short, and that earth itself would not last forever. This is why it is of greatest importance (“above all”) that we should keep fervent love for one another (1 Peter 4:7-8). The “Day of the Lord” will surely come unannounced, “like a thief,” so we should behave in “holy conduct and godliness” as we look forward to “new heavens and a new earth” (2 Peter 3:11-13)! One important way we can do this is by sharing God’s love, through Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection for the forgiveness of our sins.

Genuine Forgiveness

This is the forgiveness that we have received, and others need; love covers over a multitude of sins (1 Peter 4:8). To “cover” does not mean to cover up, rather it is to pardon; not take it against the person; keep no record to use it as a weapon; not gossip nor slander to destroy another’s reputation. Peter himself experienced genuine forgiveness from Jesus. The Lord revealed to Peter ahead of time that he will deny Him (Luke 22:31-34). Peter did deny his Lord three times and as Luke records, Jesus looked at Peter. He looked at him without condemnation or disappointment, but with a gaze filled with love, compassion, hope, and genuine forgiveness. (Luke 22:55-62). Unthinkable as it may have seemed to Peter, what followed shortly after was even more remarkable when he encountered Jesus again (John 21:15-17). In that moment, Jesus reinstated Peter into the ministry of caring for His “sheep,” offering him genuine forgiveness.

Have you, like Peter, denied or failed Jesus in some way? If we’ve experienced God’s genuine forgiveness, who are we to only receive it and not extend it to others? Let’s all embrace and share God’s genuine forgiveness. Let’s love fervently, recognizing our new identity, acknowledging the brevity of our time, and appreciating the forgiveness we’ve received from Jesus.

Last Week's Memory Verse

Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins.

1 PETER 4:8

Discuss This Message

Do I love others FERVENTLY, as a new creation in Christ? If not, what will I do about it?

How will the fact that time is short impact how I love others — including telling them about Jesus? What will I start or stop doing?

Is there anyone I need to forgive or ask forgiveness from? When and how will I do it?

What life words should you start using? Towards whom?

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WOMEN2WOMEN

ALL WOMEN

**Become a
Transformed Woman
Session 5: Reveal the Need
to Look for Jesus**

with Nikki Aguilar

March 14, Thursday, 10:00 AM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

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B1G MINISTRY

SINGLES

**No B1G Fridays on March 15.
We will resume on March 22
for a special session.**

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NXTGEN

KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD

Love Detectives

Sundays, 9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM

ONSITE: G/F CCF Center for ages 4-12

LIVESTREAM: YouTube & Facebook

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Book 1: One by One

ONSITE: March 10, Sunday
10:30 AM, Room 2A

ZOOM: March 13, Wednesday, 7:30 PM

Book 2: Spiritual Disciplines

ONSITE: March 10, Sunday
10:30 AM, Room 2A

ZOOM: March 13, Wednesday, 7:30 PM

GLC Level 2

Book 5: Dgroup 101

ONSITE: March 10, Sunday
1:00 PM, Room 3A

ZOOM: March 14, Thursday, 7:30 PM

GLC Level 3

Module 1: The Multiplier

ONSITE: March 10, Sunday
1:00 PM, Room A4

ZOOM: March 14, Thursday, 7:30 PM

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step up and volunteer

There's no better way to serve God than to serve His people!

NXTGEN  ccfnxtgen

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YOU BEING HERE IS NO ACCIDENT!

God brought you here
for His purpose.

God loves you.

He desires for you to have a meaningful
life with Him in the present and gain
eternal life with Him in the future.

*Know therefore that the Lord your God,
He is God, the faithful God, who **keeps
His covenant and His lovingkindness** to
a thousandth generation with those who
love Him and keep His commandments
– Deuteronomy 7:9*

God is holy.

We are sinful, and our sin separates us
from Him.

*Everyone has sinned and is far away from
God's saving presence. – Romans 3:23*

God is merciful.

In His love, He made the only way for
us to be reconciled to Him: through His
son, Jesus Christ. Jesus had to die on the
cross for our sins and be raised to life for
eternity.

*But God demonstrates His own love
toward us, in that while we were yet
sinners, Christ died for us. Much more
then, having now been justified by His
blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of
God through Him. – Romans 5:8*

*I am the way, and the truth, and the life;
no one comes to the Father but through
Me. – John 14:6*

God is gracious.

By placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we
are forgiven of our sins and saved from
eternal death.

*For God so loved the world, that He gave
His only begotten Son, that whoever
believes in Him shall not perish, but have
eternal life. – John 3:16*

*For by grace you have been saved through
faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift
of God; not as a result of works, so that no
one may boast. – Ephesians 2:8-9*

**Would you like to place your faith in Jesus
Christ today?**

Lord Jesus, I need You. I confess that I
am a sinner. I believe that You died on
the cross to pay for all my sins. With Your
help, I will turn away from my sins. Please
come into my life and be my Savior and
my Master. I accept Your gift of eternal
life. Make me the kind of new person You
want me to be. Thank You for giving me
eternal life. Amen.

God keeps His promises.

You can be sure that you have eternal life
when you trust in Jesus.

*And the testimony is this, that God has
given us eternal life, and this life is in His
Son. He who has the Son has the life; he
who does not have the Son of God does
not have the life. These things I have
written to you who believe in the name of
the Son of God, so that you may know that
you have eternal life. — 1 John 5:11-13*



services at the CCF Center

saturday nights

5:00 PM

sundays

9:00 AM, 12:00 NN,
and 3:00 PM

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