



Groups

HOLY LIVING 2 I Peter 1:17-25

Life Group Study Guide

Sugar Grove Church of Christ 11600 West Airport Blvd. Meadows Place, TX 77477

For use by Sugar Grove Church of Christ Life Groups 2007

Connect:

- ◆ If your group has guests or new members take some time to make sure everyone knows each other.
- ◆ What has been a high and low point in everyone's life in the last week?

Scripture:

¹⁷And remember that the heavenly Father to whom you pray has no favorites. He will judge or reward you according to what you do. So you must live in reverent fear of him during your time as "foreigners in the land."¹⁸For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And the ransom he paid was not mere gold or silver. ¹⁹It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God. ²⁰God chose him as your ransom long before the world began, but he has now revealed him to you in these last days.

²¹Through Christ you have come to trust in God. And you have placed your faith and hope in God because he raised Christ from the dead and gave him great glory.

²²You were cleansed from your sins when you obeyed the truth, so now you must show sincere love to each other as brothers and sisters. Love each other deeply with all your heart.

²³For you have been born again, but not to a life that will quickly end. Your new life will last forever because it comes from the eternal, living word of God. ²⁴As the Scriptures say,

*"People are like grass;
their beauty is like a flower in the field.
The grass withers and the flower fades.*

²⁵ But the word of the Lord remains forever."

And that word is the Good News that was preached to you.

I Peter 1: 17-25 (NLT)

Grow:

- ◆ Read I Peter 1:17-25
- ◆ Peter has discussed the theological realities of what God has done for us through Jesus Christ in chapter 1 with an expectation that the actions of God and Jesus will affect how we live our day to day life.
 - Why is it so easy to learn theological information without letting it impact how we live our day to day life?
- ◆ Verse 17 tells us to live in reverent fear of God. The fear that Peter describes here has to do with respecting and recognizing who God is so that we are motivated to allow what we know about God to impact how we live our day to day life.

- ⊃ Would it be arrogant to believe that we always do exactly what God wants us to do? Why or Why not?
 - ⊃ What are some of the primary areas in which you don't allow the knowledge of God to affect how you live your life?
- ◆ In verse 22 Peter connects the forgiveness of our sins with loving our brothers and sisters in Christ. The connection is simple: God forgave us so we should forgive our brothers and sisters in Christ, God is patient with us as we continue to fall short life so we should be patient with our brothers and sisters in Christ.
 - ⊃ Do you find it difficult to love your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ? Why or why not?
 - ⊃ Do you find it difficult to love your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ who require you to be patient with and forgive them— over and over and over...? Why or why not?
 - ⊃ What exactly does this type of love look like? i.e. what is it? what is it not?
- ◆ The imagery in verse 22 of loving each other deeply from the heart draws upon athletics where an athlete is straining with every muscle to achieve victory.
 - ⊃ What would it look like if we were straining with every muscle to love each other deeply?
 - ⊃ What do you need to do to love your brothers in sisters in Christ this way? How can this group help you do that?

Serve and Share:

- ◆ When we think about reaching out to our friends, neighbors, family, and co-workers with the message of Jesus Christ part of our witness lies in the love we have for each other as brothers and sisters in Christ.
 - ⊃ What does that 'witness' say to those around you?
 - ⊃ What type of 'witness' would someone experience if they came to this group?
 - ⊃ What type of 'witness' would someone experience if they attended a worship assembly at Sugar Grove?

Prayer:

- ◆ Spend a few moments gathering prayer requests from your group.
- ◆ Confidently go into the throne room of God with prayer. Be sure to pray by name for each member of your group asking God to bless your Life Group this year.

Preparation for Next Time:

- ◆ Read I Peter 2:1-12