

## 1 Peter 1:22-2:3

What makes it difficult to love others?

*The only way we will be able to love like Jesus is to be His image.*

Some clues from this passage:

Since you have purified your souls [this is what must happen in order to love one another]  
by your obedience [this is how we become pure]  
to the truth [what we must obey to be pure]  
for a sincere brotherly love, [the goal of a pure heart]  
love one another [this is the main command we must do]  
earnestly [love is more than superficial]  
from a pure heart, [repeats the key idea; the only way we can truly love one another]  
since you have been born again, [this is why we can love one another—we have been changed!]  
not of perishable seed [being born again is eternal]  
but of imperishable, [this describes the faith in 1 Peter 1:6-7]  
through the living and abiding word of God . . . [this is what shows us how to be born again]  
. . . So [this is the outcome of loving one another]  
put away all malice and [here are specific examples of what it means to love one another]  
all deceit and  
hypocrisy and  
envy and  
all slander. [these are all behaviors that cause problems in relationships and make it hard to love others]  
Like newborn infants, [Peter gives an example, an image, to make his point clear]  
long for the pure spiritual milk, [the example means that our motives should be pure, innocent, desperate in love]  
that by it you may grow up into salvation [this is our goal, to become mature in Christ]  
if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. [If we call ourselves Christians, there is no other  
choice we can make]

Love one another . . .

- I. With a Pure Heart (1:22)
  - A. Comes by Obedience
  - B. Evidence by Genuine Brotherly/Sisterly Love
    1. It is Genuine
    2. It is Intense
    3. It is Christ-like
- II. Because You have been Born Again (1:23-25)
  - A. New Creations
  - B. New Priorities
  - C. New Responsibilities
- III. Desiring to Grow Deeper with God (2:1-3)
  - A. Get rid of the Bad Stuff
  - B. Crave the Good Stuff