

THE POWER OF GENUINE

Community Group Discussion Guide

March 8, 2015

Week 3 | Loving Deeply
1 Peter 1:22-2:3

Read 1 Peter 1:1-2:3 before answering the following questions.

Introduction

It's a challenge living in a nation that's increasingly cynical toward biblical truth and resistant to biblical standards of morality. Where once the Bible was respected, it's now often discredited and labeled as extreme and narrow minded. So, it's no surprise that those who believe the Bible to be God's Word are finding the same labels placed on them. The message of this short book shows us how to live in a sometimes hostile environment, and live in such a way that we not only persevere but also have a positive impact for good.

Key verse for series:
"These have come so that your faith...may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed."
1 Peter 1:7

Questions for Study

1. If you're in a Community Group spend time talking through examples of well known people exposed for living a deceptive life...where they created a false impression of who they were. Talk about the impact this had on the lives of others.
2. Have you gone through the experience of knowing someone for whom you had a lot of respect, only to discover they weren't the person you thought they were? If yes, how did this impact you?
3. What were the circumstances of the people receiving Peter's letter? What perspective on their circumstances did Peter give them in the first chapter? Hint: There are two things Peter included in this perspective. You find them in the first nine verses.
4. Review Jeff's two sermons for the first two ways Peter said for those receiving his letter to show the genuineness of their faith. If you're in a Community Group, talk through these two ways together as a group.

The scripture for Sunday's sermon is 1 Peter 1:22-2:3. Read these verses again before answering the remaining questions.

5. Write down everything you learn from these verses.
6. Why is it true that loving people the way Jesus loves you epitomizes genuine faith? To help you answer this questions read the following verses: John 15:12 and Galatians 5:6,14
7. What's the number one reason you should never show malice toward another person, why you should tell the truth, why you shouldn't be envious, why you shouldn't talk badly about someone?