

What to Love and Long for Most (Part 2)

1 Peter 1:22 – 2:1-3



1 Peter: Holy Living in a Hostile Land

God's Word is living and active.

It lives and acts, so that it **works God's will** in your **heart**
and **produces God's will** in your **works**.

I. **Fervently Love Your Church Family (1 Peter 1:22-25)**

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INVEST with ZEST!

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Am I genuinely and zealously showing love to the people in my local church family through my personal investment in their growth and welfare?

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#1 reason for the **absence** of this kind of loving investment:

the absence of our obedience to God's truth.

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We must be about preaching the gospel, sitting under gospel preaching, obeying gospel preaching, and loving each other in the gospel of God's preached Word.

God's gospel **brings** us life and **bears** us along in life.

We **must** have and support gospel preaching!

I. Fervently Love Your Church Family

II. Fervently Long for God's Truth (1 Peter 2:1-3)

How do I do this?

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How do I do this?

A. By Getting Rid of Sin Through the Truth (1 Peter 2:1)

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Main action/command: *“long for the pure milk of the Word...”*

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Precondition we must act on **before** we can experience a longing for God's Word: We must **get rid of love-destroyers.**

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Putting aside (apotithemi)

- Hebrews 12:1
- James 1:21

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“The sins listed tear at the social fabric of the church, ripping away the threads of love that keep them together. Peter signals thereby that no sin is to be tolerated in the community, that sin is to be rejected comprehensively.”

Dr. Thomas Schreiner

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- Envy: **resentful discontent**

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- Slander: **back-biting** lies

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An **onomatopoeic** word **sounds like** what it describes:

meow, honk, boom

Greek word for slander = *katalalia*

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B. By Growing in Sanctification Through the Truth (1 Peter 2:2)

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- Pure (**adolon**) is contrasted with deceit (**dolos**)
- *Adolon* means **uncontaminated** and hence, pure
- The milk by which believers grow in respect to their salvation is God's **unpolluted** Word.

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