

# Digging Deeper

---

**Key Passage:** 1 Peter 1:22-2:3

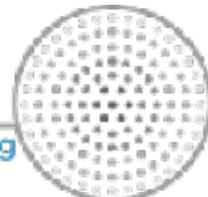
**Main Idea:** God not only saves us into a relationship with himself, but he also saves us into a relationship with one another

## Background:

To be in Christ is to be in relationship with a new family - the church. We need one another to become more like Christ. In our passage, we see the important role community plays in our own transformation. Peter tells us we have been born again into a relationship that is eternal. This new life together requires that we “put off” certain attitudes and behaviors, while also “putting on” love.

## Discussion:

1. What was most challenging, insightful, or confusing to you from Sunday’s message?
2. People are one of the means of God’s grace in our lives. God’s Spirit works through times of prayer, reading of God’s Word, fasting, times of solitude, etc. But God’s people are often instruments of his transforming work in our lives. Take a few minutes to share how God has used people to shape you at a critical time in your journey. Who were they? What did they do?
3. Take some time and reread 1 Peter 1:22-2:3. Peter tells us that we have been born again through the “imperishable seed” of God’s Word. What does this suggest about God’s Word in the process of our transformation? Why do you think God’s Word and God’s people are both necessary ingredients for transformation?
4. In verse 22, Peter tells says the fruit of a community that is being transformed is a deep love for one another. This is a familial, sincere, and sacrificial love. This kind of love is a love that gives to others without expecting anything in



# Digging Deeper

---

return. Henri Nouwen once wrote that “giving without wanting anything in return is trusting that all your needs will be provided for by the One who loves you unconditionally.” What do you think he means by this? Do you agree or disagree? How does this relate to what Peter says in our passage?

5. Take a moment and read 1 Peter 2:1-3. What are we to “put off” in order to love one another more deeply? Take some time to share which of these you have, or are, struggling with the most right now.

## Application:

- Take some time to prayerfully evaluate what attitudes or behaviors you might need to “put off.” Are there areas of your life you need to repent of? Are there people you need to ask for forgiveness?

