

Summary

In this sermon, Pastor discusses 1 Peter 1:23-2:3, focusing on how believers should grow in their faith by ridding themselves of worldly attitudes and craving spiritual nourishment. The pastor uses a personal analogy of learning to love coffee because of his love for his wife to illustrate how our love for Jesus should lead us to love what Jesus loves. The message emphasizes that believers are purified through obedience to the truth of the gospel, not through human striving. Just as newborn babies crave milk, Christians should crave God's Word with sincere hearts, allowing it to transform them from the inside out. The sermon concludes with practical applications for weeding out sinful behaviors and filling our lives with God's Word daily.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, as we gather today to discuss Your Word, we ask that You open our hearts and minds to receive what You have for us. Just as Peter reminds us that we have been purified by obeying the truth, help us to approach this discussion with sincere hearts that long for Your Word. May our time together deepen our love for You and for one another. Guide our conversation and help us to apply these truths to our lives in practical ways. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Ice Breaker

What's something you didn't like at first but grew to love because someone important to you enjoyed it?

Key Verses

1. 1 Peter 1:22-23
2. 1 Peter 2:1-3
3. Isaiah 40:8
4. Galatians 5:19-23

Questions

1. The pastor used the analogy of learning to love coffee because he loved his wife. How does this help us understand our relationship with Jesus and the things He loves?
2. Peter tells us to rid ourselves of 'all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind.' Which of these do you find most challenging to eliminate from your life, and why?
3. What does it mean to 'crave pure spiritual milk' like newborn babies? How can we develop this kind of hunger for God's Word?
4. The sermon emphasized that our purification comes through 'obeying the truth.' What is this truth, and how does obeying it purify us?
5. How does the pastor's point that 'the Word of the Lord endures forever' impact how we should prioritize Scripture in our lives?

6. The pastor mentioned that we should hold God's Word with a tight grip but everything else with an open hand. What areas of your life might you be holding too tightly that you need to release?
7. What practical steps can you take to 'gorge yourself on the goodness of God' through His Word this week?
8. How can we ensure our love for others remains sincere and pure, without adding expectations or barriers that Jesus doesn't place on His love for us?

Life Application

This week, commit to intentionally 'craving spiritual milk' by establishing a daily time, plan, and place to meet with God through His Word. Choose one of the resources mentioned in the sermon (like the Read Scripture app or the church website devotionals) and use it consistently. Additionally, identify one attitude from 1 Peter 2:1 (malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envy, or slander) that you struggle with and actively work to rid it from your life. Each time you notice this attitude arising, pause to remember the goodness of God and how He has purified you through Christ.

Key Takeaways

1. Believers are purified through obedience to the truth of the gospel, not through human striving or effort.
2. Our love for Jesus should naturally lead us to love what Jesus loves, just as the pastor learned to love coffee because he loved his wife.
3. We must intentionally rid ourselves of worldly attitudes (malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envy, slander) to make room for spiritual growth.
4. Like newborn babies craving milk, Christians should develop an insatiable hunger for God's Word, which is the only thing that truly transforms lives.
5. Our love for others should be sincere and pure, without adding expectations or conditions that Jesus doesn't place on His love for us.

Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for Your Word that endures forever and for the purification You've provided through Your sacrifice. As we leave this discussion, help us to crave Your truth like newborn babies crave milk. Give us the strength and discernment to rid ourselves of malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander. May we hold tightly to Your Word while keeping an open hand with everything else. Transform our hearts so that we love what You love with sincerity and purity. Help us to grow up in our salvation, becoming more like You each day. We pray this in Your precious name, Amen.