

- 1) Look at Isaiah 40:1-2. Who is God speaking to through the prophet? Read Isaiah 40:3-5. Who is Isaiah prophesying about? Read Isaiah 40:6-8. Why does God say that?
- 2) In the Old Testament, how did one become 'unclean'? What did you have to do to become 'clean' again? Consider Numbers 19:16-22 in your answer.
- 3) Read 1Peter 1:22. How did Peter's listeners purify themselves? What was the evidence of that purification?
- 4) What is the difference between liking someone and loving them? What is the difference between loving someone and loving them deeply?
- 5) Read 1Peter 1:23-25. What are the reasons Peter gives for needing to love one another deeply?
- 6) Peter's command to love one another is hardly unique in Scripture. Look up some of the other places the Word has the same command. What additional information do you pick up from the context of those other verses?¹
- 7) During the message, Pastor Marcus observed that purity in love is necessary, because without such love all our virtues are corrupted (justice turns to legalism, faith to ideology, etc). How have you observed that in your own experience? What must we do if we find ourselves not able to love one another deeply?

¹ See Hebrews 13:1, Romans 12:10, 1Thessalonians 3:12, 4:9, John 15:12, 17, 1John 3:14, 23, 4:7, 11, 12, 2John 5 and 1Peter 4:8.