February 18, 2024 *The Bridge Bible Fellowship* Pastor Paul S. Brown 1 Peter 1:22-25

"Stand Up & Stand Out!" "The Beauty of Holiness" – Part 3

- I. Foundation: God's provision of Salvation (1:1-12)
- II. Exhortation: Our response to So Great a Salvation (1:13-5:14)
 - A. Sanctification (1:13-2:12)
 - 1. Hope & Holiness (1:13-16)
 - 2. Fear / Reverence / Awe (1:17-21)
 - 3. _____(1:22-25)

Discussion & Application:

- 1. Share a **specific opportunity** you had this week to Stand Up & Stand Out for Jesus. How did meditating upon God's gift of salvation help you overcome your fear?
- 2. The Bible has a lot to say about "**fear**" in our relationship with God. What does that mean? How does fearing God help us Stand Up & Stand Out for Jesus? In what sense is a "God-fearing life" beautiful?
- 3. If you did a survey on what comes to people's minds when they think of "**holiness**," what answers might you expect? [both wrong and right answers] How would you define holiness?
- 4. In 1 Peter 1:22-25, what is the **command**? What does it have to do with sanctification (holiness)? What does it have to do with being born again?
- 5. How many other passages of Scripture can you find that emphasize love for fellow believers (and/or neighbors)? Why is this such a telling characteristic of people who are truly born again?
- 6. The word "**sincere**" (NASB95) in v. 22 means to "not be a hypocrite." What is a **hypocrite**? What are some ways people might hypocritically love others? How is sincere love different from that?
- 7. What does the word "**fervent**" mean? What does it mean to have "fervent love"? Why would Peter add "**from the heart**"? Give examples of fervent love from the heart vs. non-fervent love that isn't from the heart.
- 8. Do you find it easy or hard to consistently love others fervently from the heart? How would meditating upon salvation (verses 1-12) help motivate you to love that way?
- 9. Peter said the **imperishable word of God** is the seed that brought about our new birth and motivates us to fervently love others from the heart. If we have been changed by the eternal word of God, how long will that change last? If someone does not experience lasting change, what might be the problem?
- 10. How would being in a **small group** (LIFE Group or Transformation Group) help us grow in holiness? How specifically might it enable us to be obedient to the command to love in 1 Peter 1:22?
- 11. Read Luke 10:25-37. What principles do we learn about "fervent (extended) love" for our neighbor by studying the Good Samaritan? List as many as you can find. How is Jesus the ultimate example of loving His neighbors like the Good Samaritan? Let the love of Jesus in saving you be both your example and encouragement to love others.
- 12. Bonus question. How does hypocrisy hinder a person from growing in holiness? What impact does it have on their hunger for, study of, and application of God's Word?
- 13. MEMORIZE **1 Peter 1:22-25**. Ask the Lord to empower you to fervently love other members of the church in practical ways.