

1 Peter: A Living Hope (2 of 8)
"Faith Refined"
Cornerstone Church of Poway
Pastor Ed Turley
February 12, 2023

Big Idea: The depth of our faith is revealed when we are refined by fire.

"These trials will show that your **faith is genuine**. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world."

1 Peter 1:7 (NLT2) Remember Verse

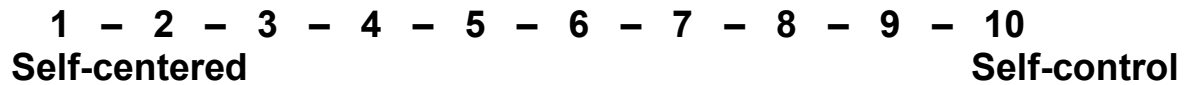
To Keep Our Faith Genuine We:

1. Choose To Exercise Self-Control

"So **think clearly and exercise self-control**. Look forward to the gracious salvation that will come to you when Jesus Christ is revealed to the world. So you must live as God's obedient children. **Don't slip back** into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires. You didn't know any better then."

1 Peter 1:13-14 (NLT2)

- | | | |
|-----------------|---|----------------------------------|
| • self-centered | ↔ | • Caring for the needs of others |
| • angry | ↔ | • Long-suffering |
| • envious | ↔ | • Celebrating others success |
| • bitter | ↔ | • Forgiving |



"But now you must **be holy** in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy. For the Scriptures say, "You must be holy because I am holy." And remember that the heavenly Father to whom you pray has no favorites. **He will judge or reward** you according to what you do. So you must live in **reverent fear** of him during your time as "foreigners in the land." For you know that God paid a **ransom** to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And the ransom he paid was not mere gold or silver. It was the **precious blood of Christ**, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God. God chose him as your ransom long before the world began, but he has now revealed him to you in these last days. **Through Christ** you have come to trust in God. And you have **placed your faith and hope** in God because he raised Christ from the dead and gave him great glory."

1 Peter 1:15-21 (NLT2)

Notes: _____

2. Pursue Godly Love

“You were **cleansed** from your sins when you obeyed the truth, so now you must show **sincere love** to each other as brothers and sisters. **Love** each other **deeply** with all your heart. For you have been born again, but not to a life that will quickly end. Your **new life** will last forever because it comes from the **eternal, living word of God.**” **1 Peter 1:22-23 (NLT2)**

1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - 7 - 8 - 9 - 10
Neglect Pursue

Notes: _____

3. Remove Hurtful Words And Behavior

“So get rid of all evil behavior. **Be done** with all **deceit, hypocrisy, jealousy, and all unkind speech**. Like newborn babies, you must **crave** pure spiritual milk so that you will **grow** into a **full experience of salvation**. Cry out for this nourishment, now that you have had a taste of the Lord’s kindness.” **1 Peter 2:1-3 (NLT2)**

“Don’t use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them.”

Ephesians 4:29 (NLT2)

1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - 7 - 8 - 9 - 10
Hurtful Encouraging

Notes: _____

➤ **What is God refining in you?**

My next right step, I will:

- Choose to exercise self-control
- Work on pursuing my relationships
- Remove hurtful words and behavior
- Accept God’s gift of salvation in Jesus Christ

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[This is only a guide – select the points you want to discuss.]

Big Idea: The depth of our faith is revealed when we are refined by fire.

Open your group with a prayer.

Icebreaker:

Who was your best coach? How did this person help prepare you to excel?

To Keep Our Faith Genuine We:

1. Choose To Exercise Self-Control

Read 1 Peter 1:13-14

How does Peter’s call to holiness challenge you at home, work, church, or in your neighborhood?

Where is your biggest challenge to exercise self-control?

Read 1 Peter 1:15-19

What does it mean to be holy and set apart for God’s purpose?

What ransom was paid for your life? How does that motivate you?

Read 1 Peter 1:20-21

When did you place your faith in Jesus? How has your life changed since then?

Life Application Study Bible Commentary: 1:14-16 The God of Israel and of the Christian church is holy—he sets the standard for morality. Unlike the Roman gods, he is not warlike, adulterous, or spiteful. Unlike the gods of the pagan cults popular in the first century, he is not bloodthirsty or promiscuous. He is a God of mercy and justice who cares personally for each of his followers. Our holy God expects us to imitate him by following his high moral standards and by being both merciful and just. 1:14-16 Peter’s words mean that all parts of our lives and character should be in the process of becoming conformed, both inwardly and outwardly, to God’s standards. After people commit their lives to Christ, they sometimes still feel a pull back to their old ways. Peter tells us to be like our heavenly Father—holy in everything we do. Holiness means being totally devoted or dedicated to God, set aside for his special use and set apart from sin and its influence. We’re to be set apart and different, not

blending in with the crowd, yet not being different just for the sake of being different. God's qualities in our lives make us different. Our focus and priorities must be his. All this is in direct contrast to our old ways (1:14). We cannot become holy on our own, but God gives us his Holy Spirit to help us obey and to give us power to overcome sin. Don't use the excuse that you can't help slipping into sin. Rely on God's power to free you from sin's grip.

2. Pursue Godly Love

Read 1 Peter 1:22-23

How does being cleansed from our sin motivate us to love others?

What does it mean to show sincere love and love each other deeply?

What grade would you give yourself on loving others?

How can you pursue your relationships better?

Commentary: 1:22 "Sincere love" involves selfless giving; a self-centered person can't truly love. God's love and forgiveness free you to take your eyes off yourselves and to meet others' needs. By sacrificing his life, Christ showed that he truly loves you. Now you can love others by following his example and giving of yourself sacrificially. **Life Application Study Bible.**

3. Remove Hurtful Words And Behavior

Read 1 Peter 2:1-3

Which is the greatest challenge for you in 2:1?

What will you do to grow in your study of God's Word?

Read Ephesians 4:29

Who needs to hear encouraging words from you?

Close in Prayer: Start praying. Be bold and pray specifically.

Snack schedule:
