

10. Read Galatians 5:22-23. Does this description differ from your answer to question 9? In what way?

Read 1 Peter 1:17-21.

11. What does it mean to “conduct yourselves in fear”? Consult a dictionary if necessary.

12. Give the two reasons brought out in these verses for “conducting yourselves in fear.” Which one motivates you the most and why?

Read 1 Peter 1:22-25.

13. What truths in verses 13-21 are we to obey in order to purify (cleanse) our souls? (Remember question 2.)

14. Those who follow Jesus can maintain a pure soul or heart in one of two ways. Peter tells us to obey so that our hearts will be pure. What is the other way to achieve a pure heart (1 John 1:6-9)?

“No moment of greater honesty is possible than when we open our lives to God in true confession. There we can express, not only our wrongdoings, but also our wrong motivations. There we can confess our sins of omission as well as those of commission. And it is also there that we can rediscover the greatest truth of all, which is not that we are sinful, but that God forgives the sinner who repents. The great discovery in opening our lives to God is that He embraces us with great generosity.”

From *Seize the Day with Dietrich Bonhoeffer* by Charles Ringma

15. “Today is the first day of the rest of your life,” as the saying goes. According to verse 22, since we have purified ourselves by obedience, what is God’s plan for us *now, today*?
16. Jot down the initials of one or two people that *you* struggle to love: _____ .
Now think through the commands in 1 Peter 1:22-25.
- Which ones do you need to concentrate on more, and how will that help you love this person or persons?
 - Look again at verses 1:3 and 1:18-19. Also think of the quote from Charles Ringma (quoted earlier in this lesson). How can remembering that God embraces *you* with great mercy and generosity help you love one another?

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