

Text: 2 Peter 1:7b
Topic: Love. Commitment.
Series: Book of 2 Peter

Focal Point Radio Ministries

May 2 & 3, 1998

Pastor Mike



Adding to Your Faith ^{part 8}

Cultivating a Love that Lasts

1:3 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. 5 For this very reason, **make every effort to add to your faith** goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; 6 and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; 7 and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, **love**. 8 For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 But if anyone does not have them, he is nearsighted and blind, and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his past sins. 10 Therefore, my brothers, be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never fall, 11 and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. (NIV)

1. Make _____

2. Maintain _____

3. March _____

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. It is recommended that you take time this week to write out your response to each of these questions. This will help to drive home the point of today's message and will help you apply the principles to your life situation.

1. Most of us are not used to *agape* love. We have experienced plenty of love that is based on the "lovability" of the object – whether the we were the one being loved or the one attempting to love. Describe though as best you can the qualitative difference you have experienced when someone is truly and completely selfless in their love.
2. Define *agape* love based on what you learned from our study.
3. Make a list of the people in your life that you have personally committed yourself to loving in this way.

How many of those people know you have made this commitment?

Prioritize this list and decide how you will inform them of your commitment.

4. What makes these kinds of commitments difficult to make?
5. What portions of the Bible are helpful for you when you begin to lose perspective and orientation as it relates to real *agape* love?
6. Memorize Proverbs 20:6. Don't let this verse be discouraging to you, rather let it challenge you! Write out a prayer of commitment to God that *you* intend to be that kind of rare person.

