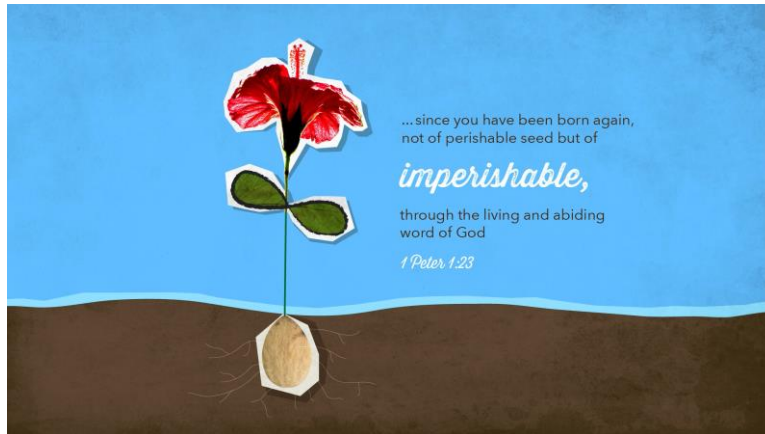




Imperishable



1 Peter 1:13-25

¹³Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ¹⁴As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, ¹⁵but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, ¹⁶since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.” ¹⁷And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one’s deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, ¹⁸knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. ²⁰He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you ²¹who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

²²Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, ²³since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; ²⁴for

“All flesh is like grass
and all its glory like the flower of grass.
The grass withers,
and the flower falls,
²⁵but the word of the Lord remains forever.”

And this word is the good news that was preached to you.



1. Think of a Christian you admire. In what ways does that person resemble Christ?

2. What does the “ready” mind do in verse 13?

3. Read 1 Peter 1:13-25. Peter lists several ways that followers of Jesus ought to respond to his gift of salvation. Define each of these responses more fully (1 Peter 1:13-16).

4. How might an honest attempt to “be holy” improve your relationships with people close to you?

5. In what situations might it make you, as 1 Peter 1:17 says, more like a stranger?

6. Why does Peter tell us that we ought to live in “reverent fear” (1 Peter 1:17)?



7. What events from the past would help the recipients of Peter's letter to appreciate God's concern for them (1 Peter 1:18-21)?

8. How could the conditions that Peter describes in 1 Peter 1:21-25 promote sincere love among Christians?

9. In speaking of a Christian's relationships, Peter drew a contrast between "love for your brothers" and being "strangers in the world" (1 Peter 1:1, 17 and 22). When have you felt sheltered by a family kind of love among believers?

10. What contrasts do you see in 1 Peter 1:21-25 between what is temporary and what is enduring?

11. Peter links the Word of God with salvation and new birth. (compare 1 Peter 1:10, 12, 23 and 1 Peter 1:25) What do you think Peter meant when he said that this Word is "enduring" and "stands forever"?



12. The readers of Peter's letter learned of God's gift of salvation because it was preached to them. How have you learned about it?

13. If you were trying to convey to someone else the value of new birth in your life, what would you want them to know?
