

FOR CHILDREN:

With your family try seeing how high you can reach in a vertical jump test. Then read 1 Peter 1:22. Peter describes two kinds of love Christians have. First is brotherly love (*philadelphia*). Christians are our brothers/sisters because we are all children of God. This love is expressed through friendship and fellowship. The second love is *agape* love. It's not so much an emotion as it is a choice. We show this kind of love when we want what is spiritually best for someone else. Peter says love should be "fervent," a word that means to stretch or strain for something. So, like your jump, it is a love into which we put some extra effort!

FOR THE GROWING CHRISTIAN:

Read 1 Peter 1:3-5. There is a popular phrase: "I was born this way." Some might use it to refer to physical traits, while more people use it to refer to their unique personality. The trouble comes, however, when people use it to rationalize sinful behavior or a sinful lifestyle. Many non-Christians may think it abnormal, or simply impossible, to change their way of living to match God's design. You yourself in your Christian walk may have found certain behaviors that are not pleasing to the Lord hard to leave behind. But no matter what way a person thinks they were born physically into this world, the truth is that those who are immersed into Christ have been born again spiritually! This means that living by God's design is not only possible, but Holy Spirit is given to us to transform us! We will still battle temptation, and it will require effort and submission to choose God's path. But living life a sanctified life brings true peace, joy, and contentment! What a gift of God that we are born again!

Weekly Memory Verse:

"...Prepare your minds for action, keep sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ."

1 Peter 1:13

Weekly Affirmation:

**I WILL REMEMBER
I HAVE BEEN BORN AGAIN.**

FOR THE MATURE CHRISTIAN:

Read 1 Peter 1:1-5. Peter identifies his audience with three different terms. First, they are called "strangers," or "aliens." This word means something like an exile living outside their homeland. All Christians fit under this term for our citizenship is in heaven (*Phil. 3:20*). Aliens can expect to stand out, and they must keep the perspective that they are only temporary visitors. Second, Peter's audience are described as the "diaspora," or "scattered ones." Again, all Christians fit under this term because Jesus has commissioned His disciples to disperse into all the world to spread the Gospel. Third, Peter writes to the "chosen ones." All Christians are chosen in two ways. One, collectively the Lord's Church is the new spiritual Israel, God's special people (*1 Cor. 12:13; Gal. 3:28*). Two, individually we are set apart by God because He knew from eternity that we would choose freely to place our trust in His Son, Jesus. And so He chose to bless us with all the wonderful blessings mentioned in the rest of the first chapter of Peter's letter! Which of the three terms: "alien," "scattered one," or "chosen one," stands out to you today? Take some time to reflect on that with God in prayer.

OCTOBER 2025 GROWTH GOALS

- ☐ Read the Book of 1 Peter
- ☐ Memorize one of the weekly memory verses.
- ☐ Watch the Bible Project video on 1 Peter (available on the website).
- ☐ Invite at least one person to Sunday assembly or Bible Study.