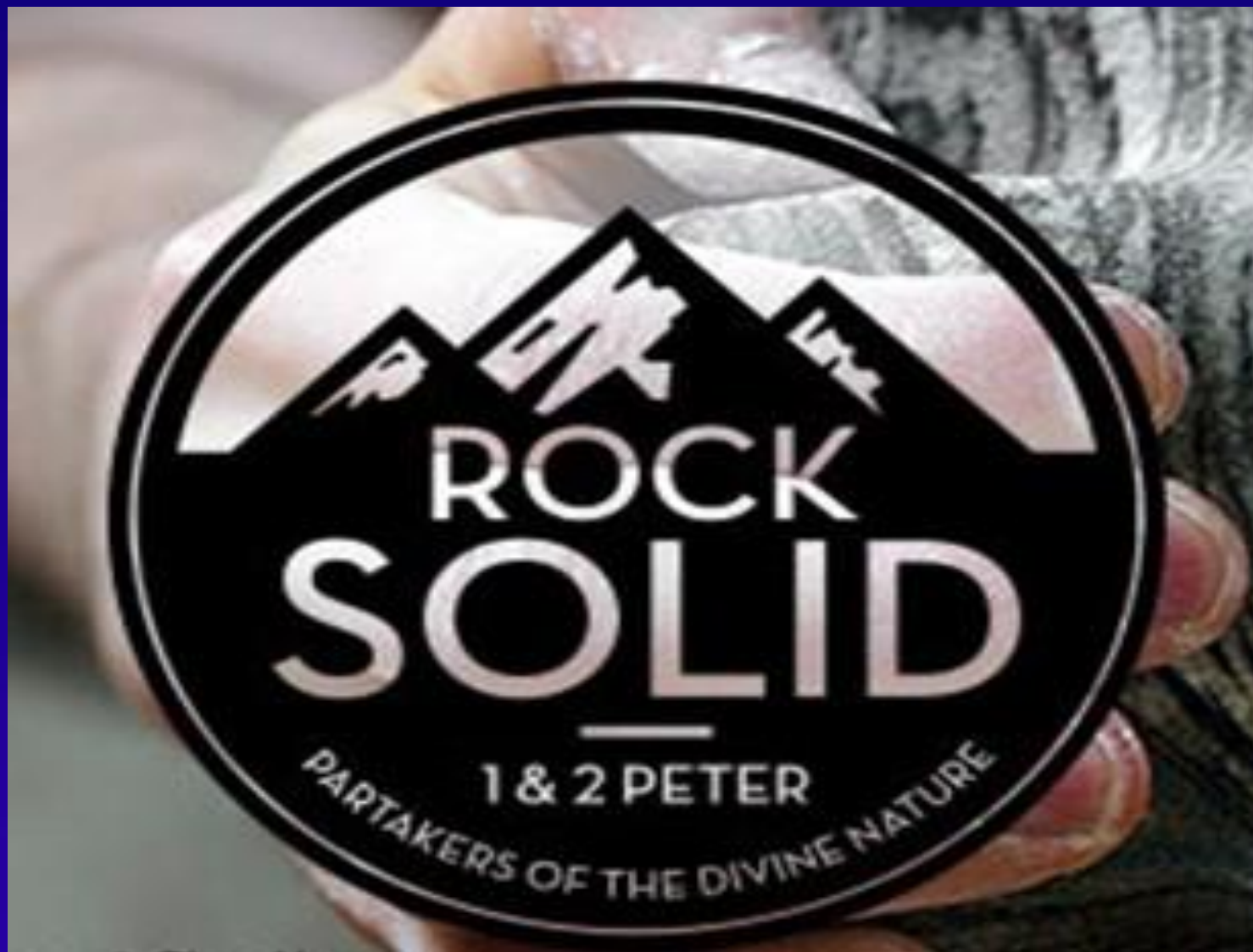


# Rock Solid Love

## Part 1



# 1 Peter 1:22-2:3



## 1 Peter 1:22-2:3

Peter's love for his Friend and Lord, Jesus Christ, was at one time on shaky ground when he denied that he even knew Jesus. His love would even get questioned by Christ later on (John 21:15-17).

## 1 Peter 1:22-2:3

But now Peter knows that love for Christ and love for His people is all part of the same package. A relationship with God includes an affection for God's people. Four components of a rock-solid love are given by the very man who learned what true love is.

# I. Introduction

Our society is becoming less personal

Harvard Business Review found that teen performance went up 50% when teens socialized more and emailed less

# I. Introduction

One thing we should be good at as a church—  
love; personal not virtual

"Sincere love of the brethren" (v. 22)

# Four basic instructions on how to have a winning team among believers

1. Demonstrate your personal liberty
2. Celebrate your spiritual family
3. Radiate a mutual loyalty
4. Cultivate scriptural dependency

Celebrate your spiritual family

You are in a spiritual family because you've  
had a spiritual birth

We are in the same family because of our  
second birth



Celebrate your spiritual family

Some of us have really messed up; love each other in spite of it

We will get through this

Make a decision to show love, the feelings  
will follow—the feelings follow the act of  
love

### III. Radiate mutual loyalty

The command: Love each other fervently

How do you command someone to love?

It's something you choose to do

### III. Radiate mutual loyalty

Words for love

*Philadelphia, phileo, brotherly love, family love*

*Agape, divine love, sacrificial love*

First, we love because we are brothers and  
sisters

Second, we love because He commands us to

### III. Radiate mutual loyalty

Love is not just a warm feeling; you've got to  
work on it

Work on treating people like God would treat  
them (see John 3:16)

Keep loving (see Philippians 1:9 and 1  
Thessalonians 3:12)

How fervent is your love for your spouse?

## Malcolm Muggeridge

"The biggest disease today is not leprosy or tuberculosis or any other disease like that, rather, it's the feeling of being unwanted, uncared for, and deserted by everybody. The greatest evil is the lack of love. The terrible indifference toward one's neighbor who live at the roadside assaulted by exploitation, corruption, poverty, and disease."

### III. Radiate mutual loyalty

What is your limit to love?

It's overflowing (see Romans 5:5)

No one in your life should ever be love starved

## IV. Cultivate scriptural dependency

Good growth requires good food

You need to be nourished in your love

The Bible is love food, it nourishes love

God's Word was preached to us and it gave us  
life

Incorruptible seed



## IV. Cultivate scriptural dependency

The fruit proves the seed is there

(see Galatians 5:22)

When the Bible gives you a command, God will give you the ability to do it

If you don't feel like loving that unlovely person in your life, do it anyway

If you don't feel like forgiving that nasty person in your life, do it anyway

## IV. Cultivate scriptural dependency

If you don't feel like caring for that belligerent jerk, do it anyway

If you don't feel like humbling yourself before that prideful person, do it anyway

Mother Teresa's Paradoxical Commandments  
(see attached page)

## IV. Cultivate scriptural dependency

If you don't feel like caring for that belligerent jerk, do it anyway

If you don't feel like humbling yourself before that prideful person, do it anyway

Mother Teresa's Paradoxical Commandments  
(see attached page)

With a pure heart; when you make a decision to show love, the feelings will follow—the feelings follow the act of love

# Final Thoughts

The apostle John had to be carried when he  
was older

His sermons were five words long: "Little  
children, love one another"

Jesus' command to love one another is still the  
most basic and the most difficult for us to do

We can do it because we've been set free