Verse 23 begins with ‘For’ or ‘Since’, indicating that what follows serves as a reason or basis for loving one another deeply from the heart. What reason do verses 23 - 25 provide for doing this?

In the context (1Peter 2:1 - 3), what is the opposite of craving pure spiritual milk?

What are the two reasons for them to long for the spiritual milk?

What do you think ‘the pure spiritual milk’ actually is? What is the result of drinking the milk?

Study 2: Be Holy

Reading: 1Peter 1:13 – 2:3

As our society moves further from the values of Christianity we find we have to make more decisions that are at odds with the norms of society. As such we are more and more strangers in this land.

The passage today has five basic imperatives: set your hope (v13), be holy (v15), conduct yourselves with fear (v17), love one another (v22) and long for pure spiritual milk (1Peter 2:2)

<u>Read 1Peter 1:13 - 2:3:</u>

Look back at 1Peter 1:1 - 12. ‘Hope’ has already been a strong theme in this chapter. What have you already learned about it? What are Peter’s readers looking forward to?

How are verses 1 - 12 logically connected to verse 13?

What accompanying actions or commands in v13 fill out what is meant by “set your hope fully”?

What things in your life tend to prevent or distract you from setting your hope fully on the coming grace? What can you do about it?

The quotation about holiness in v16 is found at three different points in Leviticus. Look up Leviticus 11:44 - 45, Leviticus 19:1 -2, Leviticus 20:6 - 8. What do they tell us about what holiness really is?

Look at the phrases and commands that support the instruction to 'be holy in all you do' How does this call to be holy relate to our current relationship with God and our former way of life?

Note down some specific areas in which being holy puts you at odds with our society's dominant way of life.

What is it about the judgment of God that should cause us to fear (v17)?

What does Peter say about hope in light of this judgment (v18 - 21)?

How is it possible to both fear God (v17) and yet have faith and hope in him (v21)?

From what have we purified ourselves (v22) [Look at previous verses] *For* what have we purified ourselves?