



2 PETER

A CERTAIN FAITH

3 studies in 2 Peter
For individuals, groups & 1:1

2 Peter 1

The Message we Heard

1. When travelling, are you someone who likes to pack for any eventuality? Or are you more likely to try and get by with the bare minimum?

2. Can you recall a situation in which you were entirely prepared for what you needed to do?
How did your preparation make you feel?

Read 2 Peter 1:1 – 11

3. How does Peter explain to his readers that we already have everything we need to live a life that pleases God?

4. What do you notice about the different pronouns (us, you, we) in verses 3 – 4?

5. What are the “very great and precious promises” that have been given to the Apostles?

6. How would you respond to a Christian person who says they need an extra message, or further direction or encouragement from God in order to live a life that’s pleasing to him?

7. Why do we sometimes not feel that the apostolic message is not quite enough in order to live to please God?

8. What is the motivation Peter gives for working hard at changing the way we live?

9. How will the seven qualities identified in verses 5 – 7 keep us from being “ineffective and unproductive” (v 8)?

10. In the light of the preceding verses, what does it look like for us to confirm our calling and election (v 10)?

Read 2 Peter 1:21 – 21

11. Why does Peter tell his readers things they already know?

12. What are the implications of this for our public teaching, personal Bible study, etc?

13. What are the differences between the message of these false teachers (who get mentioned again in 2:1) and the apostolic message that gives us everything we need for life and godliness?

14. How does this section give us great confidence in the apostolic message that we have heard and believed?

15. What will it look like for us to “participate in the divine nature” (v 4) through the promises of God?

2 Peter 2 On Guard!

1. When do you feel the most free?
2. When have you encountered a false message about Jesus or Christianity?
At what points did that message diverge from the truth?

Read 2 Peter 2:1 - 22

3. Why does Peter go back into Israel's history to speak about the false teachers in the nation's past?
4. If the condemnation and destruction (v 3) facing those who teach falsehood is so certain, why do so many people follow them?
5. What seems to be the pattern of the false teachers in spreading their message?

6. Does the delay in God's judging of sin and falsehood suggest that God is unkind or uncaring towards those who might be led astray?

7. Why is Peter so scathing and so thorough in his critique of those who teach a false message?

8. What seems to be the relationship between a teacher's message and their conduct?
Have you seen this in any leaders you have observed?

9. What is the freedom (v 19) that false teachers promise?

10. Instead of freedom what do those with a false message actually deliver?

- 11.** What will be the tell-tale signs of a false teacher today?

- 12.** What aren't the signs to look for to identify false teachers?

- 13.** What things does Peter want us to be convinced of?

- 14.** What are the challenges for seeking to preserve the truth of the gospel in our society?

- 15.** Thinking about what we've seen in 2 Peter so far, how can we serve each other well by guarding others from being lured away by false teachers?

- 16.** How can we maintain a high degree of clarity and certainty around the truth, while still making "the teaching about God our Savior attractive" (Titus 2:10)?

2 Peter 3

The Day of the Lord

1. How good are you at waiting?

What would somebody else in your family say about your willingness to wait?

2. What, if anything, do you imagine or anticipate about the day of Jesus' return?

3. What are some of the issues in your life or the world that you wish Jesus would hurry up and sort out?

Read 2 Peter 3:1 - 18

4. What experience of his Christian audience is Peter speaking into?

5. Why do the “scoffers” (v 3) disbelieve that Jesus will return?

6. What have they not taken into account?

7. What does he want his readers to remember and be convinced of?

8. How is God’s patience in delaying judgment good news?

9. What’s the motivation for Christian people’s behavior that Peter outlines here?

10. How can we help each other “live holy and godly lives” (v 11)?

11. Once again, Peter turns his attention to false teachers (v 17). Why does he warn against those with a false gospel in this section about the return of Jesus?

12. What should be in the forefront of our minds as we think about Jesus' return?

13. What is the picture of God we're presented with in these verses?

14. Why do you think it's hard for Christians to continually live in the light of Jesus' return?

15. Who are some people you know who can benefit from God's patience? What can you be praying for them, that they might come to repentance (v 9)?



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