

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, September 27, 2009

Passage: 2 Peter 1:1-4

Memory Passage: 2 Peter 3:18

TODAY: From your study this past week, what is one thing that impressed you that can be of help in your life?

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 2 Peter 1:1-4.** How does Peter describe himself in this letter? What does it mean to be a servant (John 12:26)? What will be the reward of those who serve God?
- (b) What else does Peter call himself in verse 1? Why is it surprising to see these two words combined as Peter describes himself (Matthew 20:25-28)?
- (c) How does Peter describe *his* faith in comparison with that of his readers? Why is this important for leaders?
- (d) How did Peter obtain this faith (2 Corinthians 5:21; Philippians 3:9; Titus 3:5)?
- (e) *Family:* Read 2 Peter 1:1-4 together and talk about what Christians have in common. Why would Peter (and all leaders) see their faith as the same kind of faith? Why is this important for leaders (1 Peter 5:1-4)? How does this encourage you about your own faith in comparison to Christian leaders? Pray for your leaders that they may humbly serve Christ.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 2 Peter 1:1.** What word does Peter use to describe the common faith of believers? How did Peter describe the faith of believers in his first letter (1 Peter 1:6)?
- (b) What does Peter describe with this word in his first letter (1 Peter 1:19; 1 Peter 2:6-7)? Who else is considered “precious” in 1 Peter 2:4? Why? What should be *your* attitude toward others in the Body of Christ?
- (c) What else does Peter describe as “precious in this second letter (2 Peter 1:4)? What has Peter already told us about God’s Word (1 Peter 1:23-25)? What does he say about God’s Word in 2 Peter 1:19-21 and 2 Peter 3:15-16?
- (d) Why would these promises be considered so precious (Hebrews 8:6-12)?
- (e) *Family:* Read 1 Peter 1:6-7 and 2 Peter 1:1. What are some things you consider “precious” to you? Talk together about faith. What is it? Why is it precious? Why is Jesus considered precious? Why are other believers considered precious? Pray for another believer who is facing difficulties. Pray for their encouragement in their faith.

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 2 Peter 1.** How is Jesus described at the end of verse 1? What is Peter saying about *who* Jesus is (also Titus 2:13)?
- (b) What title does Peter give consistently to Jesus in these verses (2 Peter 1:1; 1:8; 1:11; 1:14; 1:16; 2:20; 3:2; 3:18)? What do these passages convey about who Jesus is?
- (c) **Read 2 Peter 1:2-3.** What do these verses tell us about growth in the Christian life? Is faith the only thing necessary to grow as a Christian (2 Peter 1:5-8)?
- (d) What can happen to believers who stop growing (2 Peter 1:9)? How is Peter going to help them to grow spiritually (2 Peter 1:13-15)? What is the value of continuing to learn more in the Christian life (even repeating what we already know)?
- (e) *Family:* Read 2 Peter 1:1 and 2 Peter 1:2-3. Why is growth important in the Christian life? What are some things that help us to grow in Christ? Pray that you may continue to grow in the Lord and in the knowledge of His grace.

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 2 Peter 2.** What is the main theme of this chapter? How does Peter conclude his letter (2 Peter 3:17-18)? How can our failure to grow set us up for deception by false teachers?
- (b) What are characteristics of false teachers? Read 2 Peter 2:12-19 and make a list. How many of these do you see today?
- (c) Which is worse: being a non-believer or being a believer who does not live for the Lord? Read 2 Peter 2:20-22.
- (d) What promise do we have when we live in a difficult environment (2 Peter 2:9)?
- (e) *Family:* Read 2 Peter 3:17-18 and 1 Corinthians 10:13. Why is it important to recognize false teachers? How can we recognize them? Why is it important to stay in God’s Word? Pray for those who will teach the Word this week.

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read 2 Peter 3.** What is the main message of this chapter? What instruction does Peter give his readers to protect them from deceptions (2 Peter 3:1-2)?
- (b) What view of creation would these teachers take today (2 Peter 3:4-6)? What have they forgotten?
- (c) What is one reason why the coming of Jesus seems delayed (2 Peter 3:9)? What does this give us the opportunity to do?
- (d) What desire should be created in believers when they think about the Second Coming (2 Peter 3:11, 14)? Compare this with 1 John 2:28-29 and 1 John 3:1-3.
- (e) Read 2 Peter 3:3-11. Why are some skeptical about the Second Coming? How should it affect the way we live as Christians? Pray for someone that does not know the Lord.

DAY 6 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

Think back through what you have learned each day this week. Read 2 Peter 1:1-4. Why is it important for leaders to see themselves as having the same faith as all believers? How might the false teachers have felt about this? Would they put themselves up on a pedestal in terms of their faith? How did Peter attempt to protect believers from the deceptions of these false teachers? Pray for the teaching of the Word in churches tomorrow.

DATE: September 27, 2009

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The Preciousness of Faith

“those who have obtained a like precious faith with us ...”