

## Gospel Life Communities Study Guide

2 Peter 3:14-18

*The Discipline of Waiting*

Welcome to our study of 2 Peter! Before we get into the study it's good to understand the theme and audience of the book.

2 Peter was written by the Apostle Peter likely around 64-67 A.D, to the churches of Asia Minor (modern day Turkey). There are strong similarities with the book of Jude could mean that Peter and Jude discussed the issues facing the church prior to writing their letters, or that one used the other's letter as inspiration. Either way, it shows that the issues facing the church were serious enough for two Biblical authors to write about. While these issues were serious, Peter writes to encourage them that God will be with them to overcome these trials.

*"Second Peter teaches that the grace of God in Christ truly transforms and empowers Christians to live righteously, even in the face of opposition."* (ESV Study Bible Introduction to 2 Peter)

**This will be our last week studying 2 Peter. Next week we will begin our Advent series titled "His Gospel Is Peace", where we will be exploring Luke's account of Jesus's birth and the events leading up to it.**

**The study guides will run for the first two weeks of advent before taking a break for the Christmas season. They will pick up again the 2nd week of January.**

### exploring

we will explore God's word together, looking at the actual words of the passage each week.

### digging

we will dig deeper into the word, discussing the context and meaning of the passage.

### growing

we will discuss how the passage is applied to our own lives.

### going

we will discuss how the passage informs, challenges, and encourages our gospel witness.



## exploring

14 Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace. 15 And count the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him, 16 as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures. 17 You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability. 18 But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

*2 Pe 3:14–18*

1. Which words or phrases are repeated in the text? What does this indicate about Peter's intention, and about the people he's writing to?

## digging

2. In v. 14, Peter writes "since you are waiting for these". What are "these"? (see 2 Peter 3:11-13).
3. In v.15, Peter writes about the "patience of our Lord". Where else did he refer to God's patience in this letter?

## growing

4. What are the possible hindrances that could prevent us from being holy and blameless?
5. What disciplines have you found most helpful in living a godly life?

## going

6. Because Jesus will return soon how does that affect your lifestyle? How does this affect your willingness to talk to others about Jesus?



7. What present day errors or teachings in today's culture could possibly detract you from living for Jesus?
8. Are there things that you worry about? If yes, what are some of them?

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**Pray "Kingdom Prayers"**

Kingdom prayers are prayers that don't only focus on the immediate need, but also on God's glory. For example, if someone has a sore knee instead of just praying "God, please heal Betty's knee", you would pray something like "God, please heal Betty's knee so that she can continue to serve you and your people; so that she can continue attend worship services pain free and give you glory for your healing hand." See the difference?

Some ideas of what to pray for:

- Each other's needs/requests
- King Road's ministries, missionaries, members, and pastors
- Opportunities to share the gospel

