

Gospel Life Communities Study Guide

2 Peter 2:1-3

Destructive Falsehoods (Pt.1)

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)

Therefore this book should encourage us in the same way: even though we may face trials and opposition for our faith in Christ, God will equip and empower us to persevere to the end.

Our weekly studies will have four parts, following the four categories that we've set for GLC's, and end with prayer.

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

But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed. And in their greed they will exploit you with false words. Their condemnation from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep. (2 Peter 2:1-3)

1. Often repeated words and phrases point to the author's intent. What words are repeated in this passage?
2. What is the result of "their sensuality", and "their greed"? (The answer is directly in the text).

digging

3. Read 2 Peter 1:1-2:3. Does reading it in context help you with understanding this week's passage? How?
4. Read Jude 1-4. Do you see similarities? What are they?
5. Read Matthew 7:15-20. Does what Jesus taught about false teachers line up with Peter and Jude? What are the fruits of false teachers?

growing

6. In the sermon, Paul mentioned "deconstructionism". Do you know people who have gone down that road? What has it looked like? Have they retained faith in the real Jesus of scripture, or have they gone another route?
7. Time to get vulnerable. In the sermon, 2 Peter 1:3-4 and Colossians 3:5 were read, showing that even our desires can have a tendency towards evil. What evil desires have you struggled with? What sinful actions have been the result? What did confession and repentance look like?
(share with the group)



going

8. How can Peter's description and warning about false teachers assist us in sharing the gospel with others?

9. If the best way to recognize what's false is to recognize what's true, how can we help other people come to recognize the truth of Jesus Christ and His word?

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

