

Knowing Jesus

Getting started

What are some of the messages we hear from our world for what we should be aiming for in life?

Light from the Word

Read 2 Peter 1:1-4

1. According to Peter, where do we find everything we need for life and godliness?
2. When does it feel like knowing Jesus isn't enough to know how to live? Why might we feel that disconnect at certain times?

Read 2 Peter 1:5-11

3. Having been given everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Jesus, what does Peter say we should do with such a gift?
4. How do verses 8-11 help motivate us to be like this?

5. In light of 'the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ' (v11), what's one way you'd like to "add to your faith" in the coming weeks? How might you take steps towards making that happen?

Read 2 Peter 1:12-21

6. Peter clearly wants his readers (and us!) to remember these things. From verses 16-21, why are these things so important?
7. Who can you help make sure that they remember the greatness of what it means to know Jesus? What are some ways you can help them remember?

To finish

Peter is clearly captivated by how good it is to have knowledge of the Lord Jesus and his forever kingdom. What helps you to be so convicted about how good and important it is that you and others know Christ?

Pray

Pray for one another to always cherish knowing Christ and that we will help one another to remember and believe upon him and so receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Denying Jesus

Getting started

Has anyone in your group you ever had to refute lies about someone or something? What was that like?

Light from the Word

Read 2 Peter 2:1-3

1. What do we learn about the content of the false teaching of Peter's day?

2. From what we looked at last week, why is Peter so worked up about this?

3. What are ways that heresies could be "secretly" (v1) introduced?

Read 2 Peter 2:4-22

4. From verses 4-9, what is Peter's confidence for God's people in the face of the false teaching?

5. List out the different ways Peter describes the false teachers in verses 10-19.
6. How do these verses make you feel?
7. Back in verse 2, Peter says that many will follow the false teachers. What about them would make the false teachers so popular?
8. From verses 20-22, how serious an effect does Peter consider these false teachers can have on people?
9. As we strive towards 'the eternal kingdom' of Jesus (1:11), how can we guard one another against falling victim to false teachers?

To finish

Do you think this chapter is too severe and uncompromising?

Pray

Pray for one another and your church family to never fall victim to seductive false teaching and instead that we would remain in the truth of Jesus Christ.

Waiting for Jesus

Getting started

Describe a time when something coming up in the future dominated what you did in the present.

Light from the Word

Read 2 Peter 3:1-4

1. What were the people of Peter's day saying about the coming of the Lord?

2. Why do the scoffers think Jesus won't be back?

Read 2 Peter 3:5-10

3. What confidence does Peter have that Jesus will come back?

4. What reason does Peter give for why Jesus hasn't come back yet?

Read 2 Peter 3:11-18

5. Why does waiting for the Lord Jesus to return mean giving ourselves to holiness and godliness, making every effort to be found spotless & blameless & at peace with him?

6. Peter speaks of looking forward to Christ's coming and his bringing in a new heaven and a new earth. How much do you think about Christ's return?

Re-read 2 Peter 3:1-2, 17-18

7. What 3 things does Peter say to do because they will help us to be ready for Jesus' return?

To finish

Pick one of the three things from question 7. What can you specifically do to put it into practice in your life in the next few weeks? How will you do it?

Pray

Pray for one another and your church family that we will all grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ, living holy and godly lives, as we look forward to Christ's return and the home of righteousness he has in store for all his precious people.