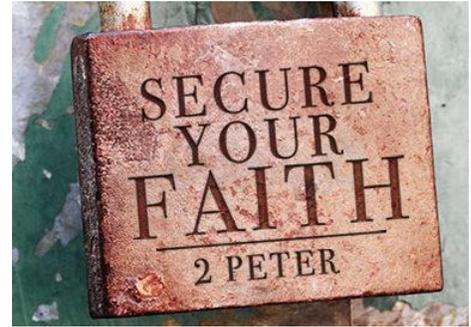


Discussion Guide

October 9, 2016

2 Peter 1:12-21



Last week we saw that we confirm the genuineness of our salvation by the diligence with which we depend on the precious promises in efforts to live like Jesus.

[Q] Were you able to *make every effort* this past week? How did it go?

Remember

Read 2 Peter 1:12-15.

[Q] Why do you think Peter would choose to remind his readers of things they already know, especially since they are “firmly established in the truth”? (v. 12)

[Q] Besides Peter’s two letters, how do you think his readers know about the truth?

[Q] What sources of truth other than Scripture do people in our culture rely on?

We Were There

Read 2 Peter 1:16-18.

[Q] How does Peter describe the myths/stories that perhaps some were accusing the apostles of following?

Compare Paul’s warning in 2 Timothy 4:3-4.

[Q] What “cleverly invented stories” (v. 16) do people believe today? Why?

Peter contrasts false teachings with his eyewitness experience of Jesus’ transfiguration and God the Father’s voice of approval. Read about this event in Matthew 17:1-8.

[Q] Why do you think Peter chose this particular experience of Jesus’ majesty to confirm the word of God?

Wait! There's More!
Read 2 Peter 1:19-21.

[Q] What is it that makes the word of the (Old Testament) prophets “more certain”? How does it do so?

[Q] How is the Old Testament like “a light shining in a dark place? (v. 19) Have you found this to be the case in your own life?

Jesus is the “bright Morning Star” in Revelation 22:16.

From the weekend sermon regarding 2 Peter 1:20-21:

‘What [do verses 20-21] mean and why is it important?
...it means that all the men who wrote the books of the Bible, were the instruments of God to reveal His truth to human kind. God didn't override their personalities. We can recognize each of their writing styles. But the content, the fact checking, the ‘meat’ of the writing is from God.

The term ‘*carried along*’ is the Greek word *pheromenoi* which is a sailing term and describes how a ship is ‘carried along’ by the wind. So, the forty some writers of the books of the Bible are like forty ships on the sea, all different, all unique. But none of them are going anywhere without the wind of the Spirit of God.”

[Q] How much is the Word of God a close guide for you in daily life? Do your Bible-reading and your feelings about it reflect the truths of verses 20-21?

[Q] Have you found ways that have helped you be more diligent in spending time in God's *great and precious promises*?
How can we encourage one another in this?

Valley's belief statement about the Bible:

We believe that the Bible is the Word of God, fully inspired and without error in the original manuscripts, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and that it has supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct. (John 17:17; Rom. 15:14; II Tim. 3:16-17; II Pet. 1:19-21)

Pray
