

WEEK 6: 2 PETER

DAY 1: WHAT CAN WE DO THROUGH THE PROMISES OF GOD?

2 Peter 1:1-4

1. This week we will study the second letter that Peter wrote. This is the third of the seven letters we are studying.

What should Christians do with their troubles? _____

What must we do to our enemy, the devil? _____

With what can we do this? _____

2. We should give our troubles to God. We should refuse the devil with faith. Then he will leave us.

Today we want to learn about the promises which God has given us. We can do two things through these great promises:

- (1) We can be free from the rottenness of the world.
- (2) We can have the nature of God.

Now take your Bible and read 2 Peter 1:1-4.

3. God has given us many promises in the Bible. These promises help us in many ways. Let us learn from Peter two things which we can do through the promises.

2 Peter 1:4:

... he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, that through these you may escape from the corruption (or rottenness) that is in the world because of passion, and become partakers of the divine nature.

This verse tells us two things we can do through God's promises. From the verse, write the first one. I have written the second.

(1) _____

(2) We can have the nature of God.

4. Peter tells us that first, we can be free from the rottenness of the world. God wants us to be free from evil. He wants us to leave sinning. He wants us to leave rottenness. People of the world do things which spoil them and make them dirty. They lie, steal, fight, and commit adultery. God wants us to leave these things.

What has God given us so we can be free from the rottenness of the world?

5. He has given us promises. He has given us these so we can be free from the rottenness of the world. It is not right for Christians to continue in sin after they receive Jesus. They must leave their sinful ways behind. There are many promises in the Bible to help us do this.

Who has given us promises to make us free from the rottenness of the world?

6. It is God who has given us promises. We can read these promises in the Bible. Here are some promises which God has given to us in the Bible.

2 Chronicles 7:14:

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

1 John 1:9:

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

God has given us promises. What do they help us to be free from? _____

7. They make us free from the rottenness of the world. God wants us to live clean and holy lives. He does not want sin in the lives of Christians. He does not want Christians to live in the same way people of the world do.

What has God given to make us free from the rottenness of the world? _____

8. God has given us promises. These promises are to help us. They are written in the Bible. We must read the Bible carefully to find them.

Kihara moved from his village to the big city of Nairobi. In Nairobi, he met many temptations. He was tempted to sin in many ways. But Kihara was a Christian. He had learned God's promises. He read them when he was tempted. They helped him not to sin. This is one promise which he read:

James 4:7:

Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

God has given us promises. Write the first thing we can do through his promises.

(1) _____

(2) We can have the nature of God.

9. First, we can be free from the rottenness of the world. God wants us to leave sinful things. He wants us to have clean lives. God's promises help us to do this.

But God not only wants us to be free from bad things. He wants us to have good things in our lives. He wants us to have the nature of God. That is the second thing we can do through his promises. To have the nature of God means that we have God's goodness in us. It means that we do good things as Jesus did when he lived on earth. God wants us to have his nature. He wants us to be like him.

There are two things which we can do through God's promises. (1) We can be free from the rottenness of the world. (2) We can have the nature of God. Which of the General Epistles tells us these things? _____

10. We read these things in 2 Peter. Peter wanted us to think about the holiness of God. He wanted us to know that we can have the nature of God. We can be good inside. We can be holy.

What has God given us so that we can have his nature? _____

11. God has given us promises. These promises help us to have the nature of God. They help us to live the way God wants us to live. We can believe these promises. They come from God. God put them in the Bible for us. The Bible is God's word. It is not the same as other books. God helped men to write the Bible.

2 Peter 1:16:

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eye-witnesses of his majesty.

2 Peter 1:21:

No prophecy ever came by the impulse of man, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

When we learn and study the promises of God, whose nature do we have?

12. We have the nature of God. Before we become Christians, we have a sinful nature. It is our nature to do wrong things. But God wants us to have his nature. He wants us to be like him.

Opere had a hard time to rule his temper. When he did not get his own way, he became angry. Anger is sin. When Opere was angry, it showed that his sinful nature was ruling his life. But Opere read his Bible much. He learned that God promised to help him. When he felt angry, he prayed and believed God. He began to rule his temper. He became patient and kind. He allowed the nature of God to rule his heart.

What has God given us so that we can have the nature of God? _____

13. The promises help us to be the kind of people God wants. These promises are in the Bible. We must read the Bible often. When we read the Bible, it helps us in many ways.

What does Peter say we will have through the promises of God? _____

14. He says we will have the nature of God. This means that we will be like God. We will live as Christ lived when he was on earth. We will follow the example of Jesus.

We can do two things through the promises of God. Write the first one. Then read the second.

(1) _____

(2) We can have the nature of God.

15. The first thing is that we can be free from the rottenness of the world. God wants us to leave the sinful ways around us. He wants our lives to be clean and holy. God's promises help us to live the kind of life that God wants us to live.

What is the second thing we can do through the promises of God?

(2) _____

16. Through the promises, we can have the nature of God. We will let God rule our lives. We will let Jesus live his life through us. We will be holy. We will not be ruled by our old sinful nature. We will do those things that are pleasing to God.

Think of the promises of God in the Bible. Write a promise from the Bible which has helped you in these ways.

17. We will share these promises with each other in class.

From 2 Peter 1, write two things which we can do through the promises of God.

(1) _____

(2) _____

WEEK 6: 2 PETER
DAY 2: WE MUST ADD TO OUR FAITH
2 Peter 1:5-21

1. Yesterday we learned that God has given us very great promises. What can we do through these promises?

(1) _____

(2) _____

2. We can be free from the rottenness of the world. And we can have the nature of God.

Today we will see how the Holy Spirit moved men to write the Bible. We will also learn that we must add things to our faith.

We will also learn that we must add things to our faith. We know that we are saved by faith. We have new life when we believe what Jesus did for us on the cross. But after we believe Jesus, we must add things to our faith.

Take your Bible now and read 2 Peter 1:5-7.

3. These verses tell us that we must add things to our faith. We are saved when we have faith in Jesus. But after we believe, we must go on to other things.

2 Peter 1:5:

For this very reason make every effort to supplement (or add to) your faith. . .

Read 2 Peter 1:5-7 again. How many things does Peter say we must add to our faith?

4. He says there are seven things. These are things which we must add to our faith. All these things should be in our lives.

Read them carefully.

Goodness
Knowledge
Self-control
Patience

Godliness
Kindness
Love

Who must add these seven things to our faith? _____

5. This is something we must do. Sometimes we wait for God to do things for us. But there are some things which we must do for ourselves. We must get more knowledge of God by reading his word. We must grow in patience by not giving up when things are hard. We must become more kind by helping our Christian brothers. We must have each of these seven things in our lives.

What must each Christian do to his faith? _____

6. He must add to it. We are not saved by doing good things. We are saved by having faith in Jesus. But we should not stop there. We must go on. We must add goodness, knowledge, self-control, patience, godliness, kindness, and love.

These are things which should be in your life. It is you yourself who must make sure they are there. You cannot wait for God to put them into your life.

To what must we add these things? _____

7. These must be added to our faith. Othiambo became a Christian a few months ago. But after he had faith in Jesus, he did not try to change his way of living. He did not try to change the way he spoke to people, or the way he treated them. He still became angry with people. He still treated some people who worked for him better than others.

After Othiambo had faith in Jesus, what did he not do? _____

8. Othiambo did not add to his faith. Othiambo said that all he had to do was to believe. He said that if he did this, then he would go to heaven. But Peter says that there are things that must be added to our faith. Paul also talked about this.

Galatians 5:22-23:

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

Who must add these things to our faith? _____

9. This is something we ourselves must do. God will help us. The Holy Spirit will help us. But we must also work at these things. We cannot just wait for God to make us patient and kind. We must keep giving ourselves

to him, and we must put these things into our lives.

What must we do to our faith? _____

10. We must add to it. When we add these things to our faith, it shows that our spiritual lives are growing strong. Peter says we should try hard to add goodness, knowledge, and all the other things to our faith.

Think about yourself. Are you trying to add these things to your faith?

11. The Bible says that you should do this. The Bible shows us how to live. Yesterday we talked about the promises of God in the Bible. Have you ever thought about how the Bible was written? Peter tells us in his letter how it was written.

Take your Bible now and read 2 Peter 1:20-21. From these verses, who moved men to write the Bible?

12. These verses tell us that it was the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is God. He moved men to write. The Holy Spirit breathed into men. He gave them the thoughts. Then the men wrote them down.

When the Holy Spirit moved men, what book did they write? _____

13. They wrote the Bible. This is why we say that the Bible is God's word. In the Bible we have the teachings of God. The things we read in the Bible are not the same kind of thing our parents tell us. The Bible is not the same as the stories which tell the history of our tribe. The Bible is God's word.

2 Peter 1:16:

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eye-witnesses of his majesty.

Who moved men to write the Bible? _____

14. The Holy Spirit did this. God moved men to write the Bible. This shows us that the Bible is different from other books.

2 Timothy 3:16:

All scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

The Holy Spirit moved men to write the Bible. As we read it, we grow. What does 2 Peter 1 tell us we must do to our faith?

=====

15. We must add to it. We must put into our lives the things which God's word tells us.

Who moved men to write the Bible? _____

=====

16. It was the Holy Spirit. We can depend on what the Holy Spirit said. God did not move men to write things that are not true. He helped them to write things that are right and true. The Holy Spirit gave men the right thoughts. The Holy Spirit gave the truth to men. Then the men wrote it down.

Did you read God's word today? _____

Did you feel from the reading that there is something you must add to your Christian life?

If you said yes, write what you should add to your life? _____

=====

17. Perhaps you will want to tell the class how God is helping you to grow in your spiritual life.

What does 2 Peter 1 tell us we must do to our faith? _____

Who moved men to write the Bible? _____

=====

WEEK 6: 2 PETER

DAY 3: WHAT DO FALSE TEACHERS DO?

2 Peter 2:1-22

1. Yesterday we learned how we got the Bible and what we must do to our faith.

What does 2 Peter 1 say we must do to our faith? _____

Who moved men to write the Bible? _____

2. We must add to our faith. The Holy Spirit moved men to write the Bible.

Today we want to learn about false teachers. This is an important lesson because there are many false teachers today. We must be able to know them. In 2 Peter 2, we read many things about false teachers. We will learn some of these things. At the end of this lesson you will be asked to write the things which false teachers do.

- (1) False teachers work secretly.
- (2) False teachers tell lies about the Bible.
- (3) False teachers promise freedom.
- (4) False teachers sin.

Now take your Bible and read 2 Peter 2:1-3.

3. False teachers are people who say things that are not true. They say things that are not in the Bible. They use the Bible in wrong ways. They refuse the true teachings of the word of God.

2 Peter 2:1:

But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies (or false teachings), even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction.

From this verse, do false teachers bring their teachings openly into the church?

4. This verse says that they work secretly. This kind of person does not want others to know what he is doing. He does not let the leaders of the church see his work. He has his meetings at night, or when the shepherd is not there. He visits the people of the church secretly. He does not do his work in the open.

What kind of person works secretly in the church? _____

5. This is the way false teachers work in the church. There is a good church near the city of Nairobi. The shepherd loves his people and helps them very much. But one day, a man called Gichui arrived in the village. He went to the homes of the Christians when the shepherd was gone. He told the people it was not important to believe that Jesus is coming to the world again. When Gichui went to church, he did not talk about these things. He acted as if he believed the same as the shepherd. Gichui was a false teacher.

How do false teachers work in the church? _____

6. They work secretly. But in 2 Peter 2, we read other things about false teachers. 2 Peter 2:3:

And in their greed they will exploit (or cheat) you with false words.

What kind of words do false teachers use? _____

7. They speak false words. They say things which are not true. They say things which are not in the Bible. They do not believe or teach the same as the Bible teaches. Sometimes they try to use the Bible, but they do not give all the truth of the Bible.

Today we are learning four things which false teachers do. Write the first one and read the second.

(1) _____

(2) They tell lies about the Bible.

8. False teachers work secretly. They do not come openly. They try to hide what they are doing.

What do false teachers tell lies about? _____

9. They speak this way about the Bible. They tell lies about the Bible. Some people do this because they have not been taught the Bible well. They do not understand the Bible themselves.

But some people speak lies about the Bible for another reason. This verse says they do it because they are selfish. They do this so they will get money.

2 Peter 2:3:

And in their greed (or selfishness) they will exploit you. . .

What kind of people work secretly in the church and tell lies about the Bible?

10. False teachers do this. We must be very careful about false teachers. It is the work of the shepherd to keep the people in his church safe from false teachers. The best way to do this is for the shepherd to teach his people well from the Bible. If the Christians understand the Bible well, then they will not listen to false teachers.

Write two things which false teachers do. Then read the third and fourth things.

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) They promise freedom.

(4) They sin.

11. The first two things are: (1) They work secretly. (2) They tell lies about the Bible. All of 2 Peter 2 tells us about false teachers. There are many words which tell us what false teachers do.

2 Peter 2:19:

They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption.

From this verse, what do false teachers promise? _____

12. They promise freedom. Sometimes people come and try to divide a church. They give false teachings and cause trouble. They promise the people freedom from their old leaders. They promise freedom from the commands of God. They promise people positions of honour. They make these promises so people will leave the church and join another church.

What kind of people promise freedom? _____

13. This is something which false teachers promise. Mwanga was the shepherd of a good church. The people loved God and worked hard in the church. But one day a stranger came to the church. After the meeting, he talked with the people. He told them secretly that the shepherd was wrong to ask them to give money. He said that if they followed him, they would not have to pay tithes. They would not have to work hard in the church.

What do false teachers promise? _____

14. They promise freedom. A man called Ndire came to a church on Sunday. He had been a leader in another church. But when he married a second

wife, he was asked to leave. When Ndire came to this church, he talked with the people. He told them that he was going to start a new church. He said that in his church, a man could have many wives. He promised the people freedom to take as many wives as they wanted.

Write the first two things which false teachers do.

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) They promise freedom.

(4) They sin.

15. False teachers work secretly. They tell lies about the Bible. But this is not all. If you look at the lives of false teachers, you will see that there is sin in their lives.

2 Peter 2:14:

They have eyes full of adultery, insatiable for (or always wanting) sin.

2 Peter 2:18:

For, uttering loud boasts of folly, they entice with licentious passions of the flesh men who have barely escaped from those who live in error.

What do false teachers promise? _____

16. False teachers promise freedom. False teachers work secretly. False teachers tell lies about the Bible.

What do false teachers have in their lives? _____

17. False teachers have sin. Peter wrote that false teachers will be judged by God. God judged the angels who sinned. God judged the sinful people at the time of Noah. God judged the sinful people near Abraham in the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. And God will also judge false teachers. God will judge them for their sin.

Think about false teachers who live near you. Do they live lives pleasing to God, or do they sin?

18. We will talk about your answer in class.

Write two of the things that tell us what false teachers do. I have written the other two.

(1) They work secretly.

(2) _____

(3) They promise freedom.

(4) _____

19. False teachers tell lies about the Bible. And false teachers sin. Peter says that false teachers are like dogs. It is hard to call someone a dog. But this is what the Bible calls them. It is very important that the people of the church know what false teachers are like. We should not let false teachers come into our churches.

Your people should know what you have learned in this lesson. On another piece of paper, prepare a sermon which you can preach to your people. Tell them the things you have learned in this lesson about false teachers.

20. We will look at your paper in class.

Write three things which false teachers do.

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

WEEK 6: 2 PETER

DAY 4: WE MUST PREPARE FOR THE RETURN OF JESUS

2 Peter 3:1-18

1. Yesterday we learned about false teachers.

Write three things which false teachers do.

- (1) _____
- (2) _____
- (3) _____

2. False teachers work secretly and tell lies about the Bible. They promise freedom and they sin.

Today we will study the last chapter of 2 Peter. Tomorrow will be a revision day. And next week we will start to study the letters of John. Now let us learn how to prepare for the return of the Lord. There are two things which Peter says we should do:

- (1) We should be holy.
- (2) We should grow in our spiritual lives.

Take your Bible and read 2 Peter 3:1-7.

3. These verses talk about the second coming of the Lord. Before Jesus returned to heaven, he said that he would come to earth again. This is what Jesus said.

John 14:2-3:

In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

Do you think that everyone believes that Jesus will come back to earth again?

4. There are many people who do not believe this. If you talk with people, you will find some of them. They do not believe the words of Jesus. In 2 Peter, Peter wrote about people who laugh about the second coming.

2 Peter 3:3-4:

First of all you must understand this, that scoffers (or people who laugh) will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own passions and saying, "Where is the promise of his coming? For ever

since the fathers fell asleep, all things have continued as they were from the beginning of creation.”

Do you believe Jesus will come back to earth again? _____

5. Perhaps you are one who is not sure about this. The Bible says this will happen. We can read about the second coming of Jesus in many parts of the Old and New Testaments.

When the leader of a nation visits towns and cities of his country, he tells the people that he will come. He makes an announcement. He lets the people know he is coming so that they can prepare.

For whose coming should Christians prepare? _____

6. Christians should prepare for the coming of Jesus. 2 Peter Chapter 3 tells us many ways to prepare for the coming of Jesus. Today we are learning two ways to prepare. The first one is in this verse.

2 Peter 3:11:

Since all these things are thus to be dissolved (or ended when Jesus comes), what sort of persons ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness.

From this verse, what kind of lives should we have as we prepare for the coming of Jesus?

7. This verse says we should have lives that are holy and godly. To be holy means to keep sin out of our lives. It means to live in a way that makes God happy. A person who is holy stays away from the things of the world. He lives close to God. He does what God wants him to do.

From today's lesson, what is one reason why we should be holy? _____

8. One reason is to prepare for the coming of Jesus. We should always be thinking of the truth that Jesus is coming. Here is what the angels said about Jesus when he went back to heaven.

Acts 1:11:

This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.

What is the first way we should prepare for the return of Jesus?

9. The first way to prepare is to be holy. By God's help we can be holy as he is. This is what Peter and John said about it.

2 Peter 3:14:

Therefore, beloved, since you wait for these, be zealous to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

1 John 3:2-3:

We know that when he appears we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. And every one who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

From this lesson, what is one reason why we must be careful to be holy?

10. Jesus is coming. We must prepare for his coming. The second way we can prepare is to grow in our spiritual lives. When we first receive Jesus as our Saviour, we are like spiritual babies. But God wants us to grow in our spiritual lives.

2 Peter 3:18:

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Write the first thing we must do to prepare for the return of Jesus. Then read the second thing.

(1) _____

(2) We must grow in our spiritual lives.

11. First, we must be holy. We must be careful to do God's will and keep away from sin. But this is not the only thing we must do. Peter tells us another thing we must do to prepare for the return of Jesus. Look at this verse again.

2 Peter 3:18:

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

After we are saved, what must we do in our spiritual lives? _____

12. We must grow. I have a son named John. When he was a baby, he did not know many things. He could not do many things. But he began to grow bigger. He began to learn. He learned to walk and talk. His knowledge is still growing every day.

We are preparing for Jesus to come back to earth. We must be holy. And we must grow.

What part of us must grow to prepare for the return of Jesus?

13. We must grow in our spiritual lives. When we are saved, we receive new life from God. We are like spiritual babies. But we must not remain as small babies.

What does it mean to grow spiritually? It means to get more knowledge. Peter said we should grow in the knowledge of Jesus. It means to overcome temptation, as we found in the book of James. It means to add to our faith and bear fruit. It means to help others instead of always wanting help ourselves.

When we grow in our spiritual lives, whose coming are we preparing for?

14. This is one way we can prepare for the return of Jesus. Jesus is coming back to earth again. The Bible does not tell us when he will come. But we must be ready for that time. We are learning two ways we can prepare ourselves for his return.

Write the second way which we can prepare.

(1) We must be holy.

(2) _____

15. The second way we can prepare is to grow in our spiritual lives. There are many things we can do to help ourselves grow. In order to grow, we must have food. The Bible is our spiritual food. We need to read the Bible every day. It is only when we get this spiritual food that we will grow. Christians who cannot read the Bible for themselves should ask someone to read for them.

1 Peter 2:2:

Like newborn babes, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation.

To grow in our spiritual lives is the second way to prepare for the coming of Jesus.

What is the first way? _____

16. We must be holy. And we must grow in our spiritual lives. We grow by reading God's word. We also grow by working for the Lord. We grow strong in our bodies when we do hard work. This makes our muscles strong. In the same way, we grow strong in our spiritual lives when we work for the Lord.

There are many kinds of spiritual work we can do. Write some work you can do to help yourself grow spiritually.

17. We will talk about your answer in class.

From 2 Peter 3, write two things we should do to prepare for the coming of Jesus.

(1) _____

(2) _____

WEEK 6: PETER
DAY 5: REVISION

Today we will revise the work we have done in Weeks 4, 5, and 6. These are lessons from 1 Peter and 2 Peter. Try to answer every question. Then go back to lessons in the book and read the answers. If you missed any questions, then read those lessons again.

Questions from Week 4.

1. What kind of people did God choose? _____

When did God choose them? _____

For what did God choose them? _____

2. Write two blessings which Peter says we receive when we are born anew.

(1) _____

(2) _____

3. What were we ransomed with? _____

What does Peter say we were ransomed from? _____

4. Who is the foundation of the church? _____

What does Peter call the Christians who are built into the spiritual house?

5. Peter tells us two ways in which Christians should live as strangers in the world. What are they?

(1) _____

(2) _____

Questions from Week 5.

6. How can a wife bring her unsaved husband to receive Christ?

What must a husband do to his wife so that his prayers are not hindered?

7. Why should Christians have unfailing love for one another?

What should we do with the gifts which God has given to us?

8. What should Christians not be surprised about? _____

From 1 Peter 4, what is one thing for which Christians sometimes suffer?

9. Who must the shepherds care for? _____

Who does Peter say must be under the shepherds? _____

10. What should Christians do with their troubles? _____

11. What must we do to our enemy, the devil? _____

With what can we do this? _____



Questions from Week 6.

12. From 2 Peter 1, write two things which we can do through the promises of God.

(1) _____

(2) _____

13. What does 2 Peter 1 tell us we must do to our faith?

14. Who moved men to write the Bible? _____

15. Write three things which false teachers do.

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

16. From 2 Peter 3, write two things we should do to prepare for the coming of Jesus.

(1) _____

(2) _____

=====

When you have finished with these questions, go back to the revision beginning on page 81. Cover the answers which you have written there. Try to answer all the questions.

=====