



Week 1: Remember

2 Peter 1:1-15

Peter reminds us that God has given us everything we need to live the life we are called to, and He calls us back to that life of discipline and love.

Bottom Line: Remember the power and promises you have received.

Week 2: Reread

2 Peter 1:16-21

Peter sends us back to study scripture, specifically the prophets, who spoke for God about the Good News of Christ. Jesus really is the Son of God. And keeping our noses in scripture will keep us from straying away from that truth.

Bottom Line: Read your Bible and then read it again.

Week 3: Refuse

2 Peter 2

The most difficult passage in 2 Peter is also the longest passage. Peter paints a stark picture of what a false teacher looks like and challenges Christians to refuse to be persuaded by their ways that lead to destruction. This message is not one that we like to hear, but it is much needed in our world today.

Bottom Line: Refuse to walk the path of destruction.

Week 4: Reward

2 Peter 3

God is waiting patiently before He returns and judges the world, because He wants everyone to have a chance to repent and receive His grace. For those who don't, judgment awaits them, and it will not be good. For those who do, they will experience the new heaven and new earth promised to us.

Bottom Line: The reward is worth the wait.



What times in your life do you find yourself most in a hurry?

Do you feel like you are in a hurry often? Why or why not?

What are some funny things people do when they are in a hurry?

Agree/Disagree: God is never in a hurry.

Explain your answer above.

2 Peter 3:9 (NLT)

The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed but wants everyone to repent.

Why is God being so patient in waiting to send Jesus back to earth?

2 Peter 3:10 (NLT)

But the day of the Lord will come as unexpectedly as a thief. Then the heavens will pass away with a terrible noise, and the very elements themselves will disappear in fire, and the earth and everything on it will be found to deserve judgment.

How does this verse make you feel?

What is Peter trying to emphasize here?

2 Peter 3:11-14 (NLT)

Since everything around us is going to be destroyed like this, what holy and godly lives you should live, looking forward to the day of God and hurrying it along. On that day, he will set the heavens on fire, and the elements will melt away in the flames. But we are looking forward to the new heavens and new earth he has promised, a world filled with God's righteousness. And so, dear friends, while you are waiting for these things to happen, make every effort to be found living peaceful lives that are pure and blameless in his sight.

What is Peter's answer for how we should respond to the promise of Christ's return?

What are you looking forward to most about the new heaven and the new earth?

What type of lives are we called to live between now and then? (Peaceful, pure, and blameless in God's sight.)

Which of these is most difficult for you?

How can we hurry Christ's return along?

Why would we want to hurry Christ's return along?

How can we help each other live the life we are called to live in these verses?

With whom is God calling you to share the message of Christ?



[Teacher Note: Share a personal story of a time you made a mistake when you should have known better. The purpose is to set the stage for the importance of being reminded of things we’ve already been taught.]

I grew up playing soccer. I was on the same travel team from 4th through 6th grade. Then, in 7th grade, I decided to take a break from soccer and try out for our football team. Since I was good at soccer and backyard football, I assumed I would easily be a star on our middle school team. Well, things didn’t turn out as I had hoped, so in 8th grade, I went back to soccer. My old team had disbanded, and my coach had moved to a different squad across town.

Halfway through the season, my new team played against his new team. At one point in the game, we lined up for a corner kick. I ran in as my teammate kicked the ball toward the goal box. The ball came right to me, and I took a shot on goal, but I missed by a mile because of the lousy angle I had taken.

As we were preparing to set up for the ensuing goal kick, my old coach called over to me. When I looked up at him, he had disappointment in his eyes. He said, “JD, did you forget your angles after all those years of practice we put in? Don’t you remember what we worked on?” It was cool, because even though we were playing against each other, he wanted me to succeed. But, as soon as he asked me, all that work flooded back into my memory.

Have you ever had one of those “don’t you remember” moments where you make a mistake you should have known better than to make?

- You lose points off a complex math problem, because you mess up on an easy addition portion of the problem.
- You comment on someone’s post in a way you think is nice and innocent, but someone takes it wrong and gets upset.
- You blurt out a nasty reply to your mom, and as soon as you do, you realize, “This is not going to end well.”

- You give into a temptation that you know will not result in anything good, but you do it anyway, and sure enough, nothing good comes from it.

We are entering a 4-week study of the book of 2 Peter. This letter was written by the Apostle Peter to Christians living in the 1st century.

2 Peter 1:12-15 (NLT)

Therefore, I will always remind you about these things—even though you already know them and are standing firm in the truth you have been taught. And it is only right that I should keep on reminding you as long as I live. For our Lord Jesus Christ has shown me that I must soon leave this earthly life, so I will work hard to make sure you always remember these things after I am gone.

Peter's life on earth is ending, so he wants to remind his brothers and sisters in Christ of some fundamental truths before he leaves them. These Christians seem to be doing a great job of standing firm in their faith. But Peter knows the old saying, "If you don't use it, you lose it." And there are some things that Peter is not okay with Christians forgetting.

For the next four weeks, we will examine what was so important to Peter that he felt it necessary to "Re-Pete" to his fellow Christians.

2 Peter 1:3 (NLT)

By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know him, the one who called us to himself by means of his marvelous glory and excellence.

This is a beautiful verse, but it uses many church words and can be confusing. I want to emphasize two parts of this verse to you:

- 1) God's Power
- 2) Coming to know God.

Peter is talking about another church word, sanctification. Sanctification is the journey of faith that every Christian goes on from the time they first believe until they die. Sanctification is a partnership with God where He works on us as we work to know him.

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