

Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

2 Peter 1:5-11

Lesson 2

Peter shared a great concern for the false teaching that had already emerged in the first century church. Before Peter addressed the counterfeits in the church, Peter described the true believers. The best way to detect a counterfeit is to know the real. The best way to know that you are real is to have behavior that reflects what God has accomplished in your life. May this lesson be both assuring and challenging to you.

DAY ONE: Read 2 Peter 1:5-11

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they were about?

a. 2 Peter 1:5-11 is one section/paragraph. List below the subject(s) covered in this section.

How would you title this section? Record your title on the **Chapter & Paragraph Division Titles Chart** provided with your Observation Worksheet.

2. At the right-hand side of the same chart are columns labeled **Key Word** and **Symbol**. They have been provided for you to record the key words and the symbol you have chosen to represent each one. Record the key words listed below and their symbols on the chart.

Used in previous lesson: *Jesus* and *knowledge*

New to this lesson: *diligence/diligent*

Now, using the symbols you have chosen, mark each of the key words each time they are used in 2 Peter 1:5-11. Remember, as you mark the word *Jesus*, to mark any personal pronouns that refer to Him. You do not need to mark every word that refers Him - only those that you feel are significant.

3. Note the term of conclusion, *therefore*, in verse 10. What is the conclusion made and what is it based upon?
4. Peter used the contrasting term *but* in verse 5. What is being contrasted?
5. Peter listed seven characteristics of the godly life in 2 Peter 1:5-7. Underline them on your Observation Worksheet.

DAY TWO: Read 2 Peter 1:5-7

1. In the first four verses of 2 Peter we are reminded of all that has been given to us *through the knowledge of God and Jesus our Lord*. Now in verse 5 Peter exhorts us to respond to God's gracious provision. Each of our lives as believers began with faith. From verses 5-7 list the characteristics we are to add to our faith.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.
 - 6.
 - 7.
 - a. Write a brief definition next to each characteristic.
2. Peter begins verse 5 telling us to *give all diligence* to adding these characteristics to our faith. One definition of *diligence* is "do your best". God has provided the resources and the strength. Yet we are to do our best to grow in these characteristics. This would indicate that these characteristics do not naturally spring forth from a believer. In what ways can we *give all diligence* to do these things?
3. How does living in the truths of God's provision, as revealed in the first four verses of 2 Peter, inspire you to *give all diligence* to verses 5-7?
4. Scan each of these characteristics again. Which one do you struggle the most with?
 - a. What can you do to *give all diligence* to *add this to your faith*?
5. Since we are complete in Christ and nothing needs to be added so that we might be saved, why do you think it is so important for a believer to *add to their faith*?

DAY THREE: Read 2 Peter 1:8-9

1. 2 Peter 1:8 reveals benefits to those who possess the attributes of 2 Peter 1:5-7. What are they?
 - a. 2 Peter 1:8b NIV reads: *they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.* Consider the strong implications of this in relationship to your Christian life. What does it say to you?

2. Consider the word *abound* in this verse. Not only are *these things* to be in our lives, they are to *abound* or *be increasing in measure*. These character qualities should be multiplying in us. In what way does this challenge you to do your part in this process?

3. According to 2 Peter 1:9, what is the problem of the one who *lacks these things*? Answer in your own words.
 - a. To be spiritually *blind and shortsighted, seeing only what is near to him* (AMP) is a terrible condition to be in. Unfortunately, this description certainly fits many in the church today. Too many Christians are focused on the world and its trappings and have no vision for the things of the Spirit of God. How can we avoid this condition?

 - b. What has the person who *lacks* the things of 2 Peter 1:5-7 *forgotten*?
 - 1.) What things contribute to your consistent awareness of being cleansed from your sins?

 - 2.) How does recognizing that you have been *cleansed from your old sins* motivate you to *give diligence* to *add* the qualities of 2 Peter 1:5-7 to your life?

DAY FOUR: Read 2 Peter 1:10

1. We again read the word *diligent* in 2 Peter 1:10. What are we to be *diligent* to do?
 - a. The words *call* and *election* have to do with our salvation, which we have already *obtained* (refer back to 2 Peter 1:1). How does 2 Thessalonians 2:13,14 give further understanding to these terms?
 - b. Jesus is the One who has made *our calling and election sure*. However, what we do in response to that gives us great assurance that we are truly saved. According to 2 Peter 1:10, what can we do to *make our calling and election sure* and prevent *stumbling*?
 - c. Walking in the *things* of 2 Peter 1:5-7 does not secure our salvation. However, it does give us assurance of our salvation. Why does walking in the *things* of these verses cause us to know we belong to Jesus?
2. A genuine faith is demonstrated by inward and outward qualities that reflect the *divine nature*. A promise is given in 2 Peter 10b to those whose lives give evidence of character development. What is that promise?
 - a. Picture when a person *stumbles* physically. What parallels do you see?
 - b. How would walking in *these things* keep us from *stumbling* (falling into sin)?
3. Consider the following *exceedingly great and precious promise* from Jude 1:24 (NLT).

*And now, all glory to God, who is able to keep you from stumbling,
and who will bring you into his glorious presence innocent of sin and with great joy.*

 - a. How does this promise correspond with 2 Peter 1:8-10?

DAY FIVE: Read 2 Peter 1:11

1. What is promised in verse 11 to those who meet the conditions of 2 Peter 1:5-10?
 - a. The *everlasting kingdom* refers to the eternal domain where Jesus Christ rules in sovereign power. How does Daniel 7:(13)14 enhance your understanding of this *kingdom*?

 2. Consider the word *abundantly* from 2 Peter 1:11. What does it mean to you?
 - a. Look up the following verses and record them below, underlining the word *abundantly*:
John 10:10

Ephesians 3:20

Hebrews 6:17
- 1.) Consider the use of this word *abundantly* in these verses. What do they teach you about God's intentions towards you?

