

It All Adds Up
LifeGroup Lesson
August 13, 2017
2 Peter 1:3-11

OPENING PRAYER:

God, we are here for you -- to worship you, to hear from your Spirit and to learn to live like your Son. Fill this place with your presence, so that we cannot help but know that you are here. Protect us from the enemy who seeks to destroy what we have come together to do. As we learn more about who you are and what you have done, let us give back to you in worship and praise. This day is for you alone. Amen.

BREAKING THE ICE:

- What did you agree/disagree with the LifeTalk this week?
- If you wrote a final message to someone nearing the end of their life, to tell them about Jesus, what would you write?

WRESTLING WITH THE WORD:

1 Peter deals with the suffering of life, while 2 Peter is concerned about the end of life and our eternal reward. Read 2 Peter 1:3-11.

- As you read through Peter's inventory of what God has provided, for which of these blessings are you most grateful and why?
- V. 3 has been called the key to this letter. What does this verse teach you? This verse also talks about the balance of the knowledge of Jesus and holy living. How do you see those related? In your own life?
- What does this passage teach you about nurturing 'holy living'? How can you put this into practice today? This week?
- What does it mean for you to be 'called and elected'?

2 Peter 1:12-21

- What is Peter's view of death? How does this influence you? How would you like to approach death?
- What action steps could you take to build to a 'good death'?
- How is Jesus a 'lamp shining in a dark place' for the world? How have you experienced this?
- If a non-Christian asked you to prove the Scripture as God's word, how would you respond?

NEXT STEPS:

- How will your life be different based upon what you have learned in this week's scripture, lesson and/or LifeTalk?
- V. 3 says God has 'given us everything we need.' Take stock of all that God has given you. Make a list and give thanks.
- Who has been a spiritual rock for you. Write them a note of thanks. Consider the ways that they supported you. How can you implement that in your life?
- Peter spoke of the prophets who pointed to Christ. Read the following scriptures, what do they teach you about Jesus? Faith? Your life? (Isaiah 40:1-11, Isaiah 53:1-12, Micah 5:2-5, Zechariah 9:9, Revelation 21:22-22:7)
- Peter uses lust, not just as sexual desire, but as any consuming desire that can separate us from God. What desires put you in conflict with God? Name them before God and ask for forgiveness.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty,
my memory, my understanding
and my entire will,
All I have and call my own.

You have given all to me.
To you, Lord, I return it.

Everything is yours; do with it what you will.
Give me only your love and your grace.
That is enough for me. (St. Ignatius of Loyola)