

SUFFER WELL

A FIELD GUIDE FROM 1ST & 2ND PETER

WEEKLY STUDY GUIDE

Week 15: False Teachers Won't Last

SERIES OVERVIEW

Suffering is a natural consequence of surrender. As we surrender in greater ways to the Lordship of Jesus, we should expect persecution and difficulty especially as we find ourselves living in a negative world. 1st Peter encourages believers to persevere faithfully in light of their present hope and future salvation.

2 PETER OVERVIEW

For a summary, timeline, background, message and purpose of 2nd Peter, go to your [Suffer Well Field Guide page 47](#).

- [Watch Overview](#) (Watch as a group)

CONTEXT

In 2 Peter 2:1-10, Peter warns against false teachers who will introduce destructive heresies and exploit believers with deceptive words. He reassures that the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment.

THE BIG IDEA

False teaching destroys, and God promises to destroy false teachers. Their end is destruction, and they will not escape.

ICEBREAKER

All of us lied when we were kids but some of us were better liars than others. Share a funny moment when you lied as a kid and what were the consequences from a parent or teacher? Or share a funny lie your kids told you recently. Have fun with this exercise.

SCRIPTURE: 2 Peter 2:1-10

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, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. 2 And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed. 3 And in their greed they will exploit you with false words. Their condemnation from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep. 4 For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until the judgment; 5 if he did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly; 6 if by turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes he condemned them to extinction, making them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly; 7 and if he rescued righteous Lot, greatly distressed by the sensual conduct of the wicked 8 (for as that righteous man lived among them day after day, he was tormenting his righteous soul over their lawless deeds that he saw and heard); 9 then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment, 10 and especially those who indulge in the lust of defiling passion and despise authority.

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GROUP DISCUSSION

Refer to your notes in your Suffer Well Field Guide (pg. 59), what is one thing that stood out to you from the sermon and why do you think God wants you to remember this truth?

Read 2 Peter 2:1-10 as a group. What phrase or phrases jump off the page for you and why? For example... “denying the Master who bought them”. This tells me the importance and power of remembering the Gospel to expose false teachers. False teachers say they know Jesus but don’t.

Many of us who grew up in the Church have “church hurt” because we were lied to. Share one lie you believed growing up that you no longer believe and how did that lie impact your view of God and His church?

What are the consequences for false teachers? What are the consequences Peter outlines for those who follow false teachers?

How does Peter’s reminder of God’s past judgments serve as a warning for the future?

What are some modern examples of false teachings (from the sermon or in your daily life) and how do they contradict the core biblical doctrines of Christianity? Share examples of how you have experienced them.

Deeper Community: With the abundance of Preacher/Teachers online, how can we help each other distinguish between false teachers and Biblically sound teachers?

Group discussion continued:

Read Luke 9:23-24 from our All To Him Discipleship Journey. These verses help us filter out false teachers and lead us to true discipleship. Have a conversation about the statements below. (False teachers=FTs)

*FTs don’t deny themselves- they indulge.

*FTs don’t take up their cross- they take up comforts.

*FTs don’t follow teachings of Jesus- they follow their hearts/live their truth.

PRAYER (In gender based groups)

*Share praises, answered prayers, and prayer requests. Pray for wisdom to recognize false teachers and teaching when you hear it and courage to follow Luke 9:23-24.

Closing Prayer (together as a group)

Lord, guide us in discernment to recognize and avoid false teachings. Give us a passion to know Jesus and a desire to walk in the truth of Your Word. May we remain steadfast in Your truth, living lives that honor You and reflect Your grace and mercy to others. Amen

***All groups need to have a conversation about your summer schedule. The summer email will help guide your conversation.

[Here’s a link](#) to the Summer email!