

**“Deepen yourself in the Gospel”
Strong & Faithful: 2 Peter 3:14-18
Discussion Questions**

Read 2 Peter 3:14

1. What does the “therefore” indicate at the beginning of the sentence? How does that help us better understand the imperatives in this section?
2. What does Peter mean when he encourages his readers to be “diligent” in being found “spotless, blameless, and at peace”? What does this look like practically? Reading this passage in context of the entire letter, how does Jesus’ work on the cross inform Peter’s encouragement?

Read 2 Peter 3:15-17

3. In v.15, why does Peter claim that the Lord’s patience is to be considered as “salvation”? What is he referring to?
4. In v. 15, Peter loops Paul’s writings into the conversation and equates them to the rest of scripture. Why do you think he did that? What was significant about his writings and his life?
5. How were people distorting scripture as he mentions in v.16? Why is it important that we guard against that? What does instability look like when we don’t?

Read 2 Peter 3:18 and Ephesians 14-20

6. Peter closes this entire letter with the imperative of “growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ”. Why do you think he chose to do that (consider each word he chose)? What does this say about the Christian life?
7. How does Paul echo that in Ephesians? What stands out to you about the language in both of these letters?
8. Is this the way we often think about growing or maturing spiritually? Why or why not?
9. The main way that we grow as Christians is that we deepen ourselves in the Gospel. What does this look like for you? How do we do that in this group already? What are ways we can do that better?

Reflection and Application

10. Are you struggling to grow in your faith? Why do you think that is? How does this passage (and letter) speak to that?
11. If you could look one year in the future from today, what ways would you hope we grow as a group (in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior)? What about you personally?
12. Peter ends this letter by attributing glory to God in the Church and Christ. How does this propel us to live in a way that glorifies him as part of his church? How does it encourage us to cast hope?