# DIVING DEEPER DISCUSSION GUIDE



#### TEXT SUMMARY

In this week's text, <u>2 Peter 1:1-4</u>, Peter opens his second letter with a glorious promise that God has, through His promises, provided us everything we need for "life and godliness."

## INTRODUCTION (OBSERVATION):

- 1. What do we learn about Peter and his audience in the first verse?
- 2. Peter wishes for God's grace and peace to be bestowed on his readers in what? By what *means* has God "granted us all things pertaining to life and godliness"? (Did you see the repetition?)
- 3. To what has God called His people?
- 4. By what *means* has God granted to us His promises? (Although there are a couple of possible referents to the pronoun "which" in v. 4, Bible scholars think it is the nouns closest to the pronoun to which Peter refers.)
- 5. Why has God "granted us all things pertaining to life and godliness"?
- 6. What is the *source* of corruption in the world?

### **DISCUSSION (INTERPRETATION):**

- 1. Peter's language points to a relationship between the "glory and goodness" of God and His "precious and very great promises" (v. 3-4). How are the goodness and glory of God a *means* by which He grants us His promises?
- 2. How can we mere mortals, and broken ones at that become "partakers of the divine nature" (v. 4)?
  - What are some of God's attributes (essential characteristics) in which we cannot share because we are human?
  - What are some aspects of His nature that we *can* share in?

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#### SO WHAT? (APPLICATION):

- 1. Not everyone who knows God sees the two-fold life-change Peter describes in v. 2-3: grace and peace multiplied (v. 2) and the power for all things that pertain to life and godliness (v. 3).
  - Why is this so? How can the knowledge of God yield such rich fruit in some and almost no fruit in others? Some Christ-followers *never* seem to grow in their love and trust for God or their love for others. Why?
  - In your own life, when (and why and how) have you seen your knowledge of God cause your faith to grow and flourish?
- 2. What are some of the "great and precious promises" God has granted to us?
  - What are some of the promises of God that have sustained you over the years of your walk with Him?
  - Have you ever been in a season when all you could cling to was the promises of our promisekeeping God? Sometimes, when we are in a deeply dejected state, we have trouble taking seriously the promises of God. What are some of the factors that drove you to that dismal state of mind?
  - What *means* did God use to remind you of His promises and His faithfulness during that dark season of your life?
- 3. **Escaping the "corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire" is easier said than done,** especially in a culture like ours that pays such outsize attention to money and sex. How can a Christ-follower "escape" the world's corruption without isolating him/herself from the world altogether?

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