1&2 Peter – Term 2 Daily Devotions 2020

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| **Week 1** |  |  |
| Day 1 | 1 Peter 1:1-2 | * Peter wrote to several churches with this letter but what words did he use to describe these churches?
* Peter mentions the Trinity in his introduction. What did the Trinity do for God’s elect?
* What kind of comfort does it bring you to know that all three members of the Trinity are involved in your salvation?
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| Day 2 | 1 Peter 1:3-4 | * What did Peter give praise to God for?
* Who gives us that hope and how?
* What does the hope of heaven mean for you? How does it make a difference in your life?
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| Day 3 | 1 Peter 1:3-9 | * Why do trials and suffering have greater worth than gold?
* What is the great goal of faith?
* How do you handle the struggle of suffering and the glorious joy of salvation? They seem to be opposites…
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| Day 4 | 1 Peter 1:10-12 | * What was it that the prophets looked forward to and the angels long to understand?
* What value do you place on the gospel?
* How can we show the same desire of the prophets and angels?
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| Day 5 | 1 Peter 1:13-15 | * Peter wrote to the elect who knew the gospel of salvation. What were they to do and not do?
* Peter quoted Leviticus and summarised how they were supposed to live. What is that summary?
* How would being holy like God is holy change your life?
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| **Week 2** |  |  |
| Day 1 | 1 Peter 1:13-19 | * How does living holy lives make us live as strangers?
* What makes gold and silver so valuable? Why is Jesus’ blood so much more valuable?
* What is the most precious thing to you and why? Should that change as you consider Jesus’ sacrifice?
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| Day 2 | 1 Peter 1:17-21 | * We do not have to live in fear for Judgement Day because of Jesus’ sacrifice. When was Jesus chosen to make this sacrifice?
* Because of all that Jesus has done, who are we supposed to have faith and hope in? Why?
* Given that COVID-19 has turned our world upside down, how do you feel about knowing that God secured your salvation in Jesus before the world began?
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| Day 3 | 1 Peter 1:17-25 | * As people who are considered holy, how are we to live with others?
* How is God’s Word different to humanity?
* What concrete thing can we base our life on?
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| Day 4 | 1 Peter 2:1-3 | * What are Christians to rid themselves of?
* What are they to crave and why?
* Are you maturing in your salvation? Why/why not?
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| Day 5 | 1 Peter 2:4-6 | * What is the purpose of a cornerstone? Why are they so important?
* What makes Jesus the living cornerstone? What role should he have in the life of the church?
* In what ways does our church build upon Jesus? In what was does it not (or at least improve upon)?
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| **Week 3** |  |  |
| Day 1 | 1 Peter 2:4-8 | * Who is the cornerstone of the church and what makes the stone so precious?
* Why is the cornerstone a stumbling block to some?
* How does the idea of a precious stone which some people stumble over help us to understand the different ways people respond to the gospel of Jesus?
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| Day 2 | 1 Peter 2:9-10 | * What titles did Peter give to God’s elect? What do they mean?
* As a people belonging to God, what were they supposed to do?
* What was so amazing about the different people coming together as one church?
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| Day 3 | 1 Peter 2:9-12 | * Now that God’s elect knew their salvation, what were they to abstain from?
* How were they supposed to live and why?
* Have you experienced being accused of doing wrong though your deeds were good? Do you hope that God will be glorified on the Day of Judgement or do you hope for vindication and/or revenge?
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| Day 4 | 1 Peter 2:13-15 | * How did Peter expect God’s people to do God’s will?
* Why is submitting to worldly authorities so hard?
* Have you struggled with submitting to these authorities during COVID-19?
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| Day 5 | 1 Peter 2:13-17 | * How can a person be a servant and a free person at the same time? How are you meant to live with those 2 ideals?
* What does proper respect look like?
* What are the challenges in living this way?
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| **Week 4** |  |  |
| Day 1 | 1 Peter 2:18-20 | * How would a good or bad master make a difference to a slave’s life?
* What would be so hard about submitting to a bad master? Why would God expect us to submit to a bad master?
* We live in the 21st century, should we allow our bosses to be bullies or should we suffer for doing good?
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| Day 2 | 1 Peter 2:18-25 | * Why is Jesus such a good example to follow?
* What should be more important to us - worldly justice or eternal justice? How should that make a difference to our lives?
* How are you allowing Jesus to be your shepherd and overseer of your soul?
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| Day 3 | 1 Peter 3:1-6 | * TRIGGER WARNING – PASSAGE LIKELY TO OFFEND! The woman is called to submit. Does that mean that she doesn’t have an active role in the marriage? Why should she submit? What about women’s rights? Is this a reason to walk away from God and the Bible?
* What form of beauty should a woman aspire to and why?
* If this passage only causes you stress, how could you look to see the positive and not concentrate on the negative?
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| Day 4 | 1 Peter 3:7 | * TRIGGER WARNING – PASSAGE LIKELY TO OFFEND! Are husbands supposed to dominate his wife? If not, why? How are they supposed to relate to their wives?
* Women are not weak – not in every sense of the word. In what way could they have been considered weaker and how could husbands support their wives?
* These passage can be a cause of division, yet they were supposed to help husbands and wives. How can we see them in their best light?
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| Day 5 | 1 Peter 3:8-12 | * After all this talk of submitting to certain authorities, how are Christians of the same church supposed to live with each other?
* What are the eyes of the Lord on, and what does his face turn away from? How does that impact life?
* Do you struggle with brotherly love? Do you think you are really good at brotherly love?
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| **Week 5** |  |  |
| Day 1 | 1 Peter 3:13-15a | * Answer the question of the text – “Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good?”
* Why should you not be frightened if someone does decide to harm you?
* What does it mean to set apart Christ as Lord?
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| Day 2 | 1 Peter 3:13-16 | * Why is it so important to be prepared to give an answer? How can you prepare?
* Notice that it is not just what you say in your answer, it is how you give your answer that counts. Why does this make a difference?
* So, should there be any sense of revenge when you do good?
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| Day 3 | 1 Peter 3:17-18 | * Why is it better to suffer for doing good rather than evil?
* What has that got to do with Christ dying for the unrighteous?
* What does this say about our goodness and our need for a saviour?
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| Day 4 | 1 Peter 3:18-22 | * WARNING! CONFUSING PASSAGE! The Holy Spirit spoke through Noah. What would the message have been?
* How does judgement and salvation found in Noah’s story become symbols for understanding Christian baptism?
* Does baptism save us? If not, what does? Does that strengthen your faith?
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| Day 5 | 1 Peter 4:1-3 | * What does it mean for a Christian to arm themselves with also suffered?
* How does that change the way you live?
* What if that list doesn’t describe you? Does that mean that you have conquered evil human desire?
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| **Week 6** |  |  |
| Day 1 | 1 Peter 4:1-6 | * If Peter was writing this letter today, what would his list of sins look like? What kind of things are people surprised by when Christians do not join in with them?
* How is that those who are spiritually dead are able to be our judges?
* Who is the actual judge? Who should we really be living for and getting ready to give an account to? So, why set up 2 judges?
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| Day 2 | 1 Peter 4:7-9 | * How does the end being near challenge the way we ought to live?
* Why is it so important to pray?
* Why is love so important and how can we be better at both offering and receiving love?
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| Day 3 | 1 Peter 4:7-11 | * What are the various forms of grace and how can we show them to each other?
* If you are not a good speaker, what should you rely on when you might have to speak? If you are a good speaker, what should you rely on when you are supposed to speak?
* Why is it so important that God gets the praise and not us?
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| Day 4 | 1 Peter 4:12-14 | * The sufferings of the elect Peter wrote about had to do with unjust accusations. Why should they not be surprised by this?
* How strange is it to think that suffering could be something we should rejoice in?
* How are we linked with Christ when we are insulted? What does that mean for us?
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| Day 5 | 1 Peter 4:12-19 | * What if some of the Christians had been murderers, etc. should they not suffer (be arrested and punished)?
* Why is suffering insult, persecution, arrest, and punishment not something to be ashamed of if you are a Christian?
* Who should we commit ourselves to and why?
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| **Week 7** |  |  |
| Day 1 | 1 Peter 5:1-4 | * Peter addressed the elders. Why would Peter concentrate on their need to be good shepherds? (John 21:15-19)
* What temptations are there for the shepherds?
* What should a good shepherd look like? What is their reward?
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| Day 2 | 1 Peter 5:5-7 | * How are the younger people supposed to live?
* What makes that so hard to do in today’s society?
* What about the anxieties young people face? Why should they cast those anxieties on God?
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| Day 3 | 1 Peter 5:8-11 | * What does it mean to be self-controlled? How hard is that? Why be self-controlled?
* Are Christians alone in their suffering?
* What hope does the Christian have when they suffer? How can we understand this promise in our lives?
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| Day 4 | 1 Peter 5:12-14 | * Who actually penned the letter?
* Why would Peter write in code about the woman in Babylon?
* How important is it that we send greetings to one another? How can we reach out to others? Has COVID-19 helped you understand the importance of reaching out to others with Christian greetings?
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| Day 5 | 2 Peter 1:1-4 | * How does Peter describe those who he was writing to?
* What has God us and why has he given us these things?
* What does it mean “to participate in the divine nature”? Do we become God?
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| **Week 8** |  |  |
| Day 1 | 2 Peter 1:5-8 | * Peter makes a list of things Christians should add to their faith. How do they build on each other?
* What is the purpose of growing in these things?
* How can we encourage one another to grow in this way?
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| Day 2 | 2 Peter 1:5-11 | * What does it mean if the Christian does not add these things to their faith? What have they forgotten?
* If being called and elected means that God chose us rather than us choosing him, how can we make our calling and election sure?
* Why is it so important that we make our calling and election sure?
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| Day 3 | 2 Peter 1:12-15 | * Why was Peter so eager to remind them of things they already knew?
* What might have happened if he was not so eager?
* How can we be eager to also continually remind people so that they remember the gospel even after we are gone?
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| Day 4 | 2 Peter 1:16-18 | * Have you come across people who say that Christians believe in myths and stories? How have things changed in 2000 years?
* What proof did Peter turn to, to prove his point? Why is it surprising he would choose that moment for proof?
* If someone asked you for proof, what would you say? How can we improve on finding our proof?
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| Day 5 | 2 Peter 1:16-21 | * Peter’s initial proof was as an eyewitness, what other proof does he turn to?
* What warnings does he give about interpreting prophecy? How can we measure the words of prophets today?
* How does this passage help us to rely on Scripture? How can we make sure we read it correctly?
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| **Week 9** |  |  |
| Day 1 | 2 Peter 2:1-3 | * What kinds of warning does Peter give about false prophets and false teachers?
* Where do we see these false prophets and teachers today?
* How do we protect ourselves and others against false prophets and teachers?
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| Day 2 | 2 Peter 2:4-10a | * Peter makes a list of those God judged and those he saved or rescued. Separate those lists and compare them.
* What point was Peter making with these lists?
* What does this say to us if we recognise leaders as being false prophets or false teachers?
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| Day 3 | 2 Peter 2:10b-12 | * These false teachers were slandering celestial beings. It makes you wonder what they were teaching. What strange teaching have you heard about angels and celestial beings?
* What do the angels not do? Is there not one angel who is famous for doing this? (Revelation 12:10)
* What are the false teachers compared to? How does this help us when we consider whether we should listen to them or not?
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| Day 4 | 2 Peter 2:13-16 | * Some false prophets and teachers prove to be good people, others prove to be bad. Have you heard of a false teacher who thought it was okay to do the very things they preached against?
* It is very easy to look at the false prophets and teachers out there and think about how bad they are, but how easy is it for us to fall into the trap of being a false leader?
* What comfort is there in knowing that false prophets and teachers will be paid back for the harm they have caused others?
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| Day 5 | 2 Peter 2:17-22 | * What do these false prophets and teachers seem to offer? What irony do we find when we compare what they offer to what they are in themselves?
* Where do these false prophets and teachers come from? Why is that so dangerous?
* Why are they compared to a dog going back to its vomit? Why is that so bad?
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| **Week 10** |  |  |
| Day 1 | 2 Peter 3:1-2 | * How many letters had Peter written to the elect? What was the purpose in writing them?
* How can we continue to recall the words of the prophets and apostles?
* How can we encourage one another to recall God’s Word to stimulate us into wholesome thinking?
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| Day 2 | 2 Peter 3:1-7 | * What do scoffers follow? What do scoffers say?
* What do scoffers forget about the creation event? What do scoffers forget about the flood?
* Why is it important that we remember these things?
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| Day 3 | 2 Peter 3:8-10 | * When we read Genesis in term 1, we saw that God made promises and even at the end of Genesis those promises were only partially kept. From our perspective, God does take his time in keeping promises. How are we supposed to understand God’s timing when it comes to promise keeping?
* Why is God being patient? What is he waiting for? Yet, for all this patience, what will the Day of the Lord be like?
* How can we be prepared?
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| Day 4 | 2 Peter 3:10-13 | * What is so scary about the Day of the Lord?
* If we do not know when the day will come, how can we speed its coming?
* Why would we look forward to such a day?
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| Day 5 | 2 Peter 3:14-18 | * What does the Lord’s patience mean? Why is that so important and how should we live knowing that the Day of the Lord is coming?
* What should we be on our guard against and why?
* How has Peter helped you to endure suffering and to be on the lookout against false prophets and teachers?
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