

2 Peter 1:1-4

What Peter wants

As we start our studies in 2 Peter, have a look at the last two verses in his letter, 3:17-18 where Peter sets out what he wants for those who read his letter. How would you summarise what he wants here?

How do you think those two things are linked?

God's gifts 1:1-2

As Peter describes his readers (and every believer) in v1, how does he describe:

- A) what they have?
- B) how they have received it?

How does their (and our) Christian experience compare to Peter's own, according to v1? How do you feel about that?

Look now at v2. What does he want for them in their Christian experience? What do you think he means? (How do you think grace and peace and knowledge are linked here?)

Present Power 1:3

What do we need in order to grow, according to Peter?

What are the reassurances and challenges in this?

Precious Promises 1:4

Why are Jesus' promises so precious, according to this verse? What do they result in? (If you are struggling with what Peter is getting at, you might find it helpful to check out 2 Corinthians 3:18 and 1 Peter 1:18-19 for some similar ideas.)

[Peter will have a lot more to say about promises in chapter 3, especially in verses 3 and 13.]

Thinking it through

How would you summarise what Peter is saying about the privileges of being a Christian?

When we think about our Christian lives, sometimes we can feel sad or guilty about what we lack. How does Peter challenge that approach? Where does Christian growth start?

If we really grasped them, how would these truths encourage us

- A) in our daily times of bible reading and prayer?
- B) in the frustrations of lockdown?
- C) when we struggle with lack of progress in our Christian lives?