



**LIVE
READY**

2 PETER 2:1–22

“FALSE TEACHERS, REAL DANGER”

MAY 3, 2026

OPENING

Ice Breaker – 5 minutes

Choose one:

- Have you ever believed something that sounded convincing but later turned out to be wrong?
- What makes someone trustworthy to you? What makes you skeptical?

Peter writes one of the strongest warning passages in the New Testament—not to create fear, but to help believers see clearly and live wisely.

Read the Text Together: 2 Peter 2:1–3, 9–10, 17–19

Read selected portions: 2 Peter 2:1–3, 9–10, 17–19. Listen for:

- how false teachers are described
- what they promise
- what their outcome will be

SUMMARY

Peter warns the church that false teachers are not just outside threats—they arise from within and can lead many astray. These teachers may sound appealing, but they distort the gospel, deny Christ’s authority, and pursue selfish gain. Their message often promises freedom, but it actually leads to corruption and destruction. Pastor Nathan framed Peter’s warning with a simple call: Consider carefully – use discernment.

Peter highlights four ways to recognize false teaching:

- Consider the source – they claim Christ but ultimately serve themselves (and the evil one)
- Consider the outcome – their path leads not to life, but to judgment

- Consider the lifestyle – their lives are marked by indulgence, greed, and corruption
- Consider the reality – they promise fulfillment but deliver emptiness

At the same time, Peter reassures believers: God knows how to rescue the righteous and judge evil. The call is not panic—but discernment, clarity, and faithfulness.

DISCUSSION

Observation Questions

- What does Peter say false teachers will secretly bring into the church?
- What motivates these teachers?
- What examples from history does Peter use to describe God's judgment?
- What images does Peter use to describe false teachers in verses 17–19?

Interpretation & Theological Reflection

- Why is it significant that Peter's concern is over false teachers arising from within the church?
- What makes false teaching appealing or persuasive?
- What does it mean that false teachers "promise freedom" but are themselves enslaved (v. 19)? How does that work?
- How do Peter's examples from history help us understand God's justice and patience?

Application Questions

- What kinds of messages today sound appealing but may distort the truth of the gospel?
- How can you grow in discernment without becoming cynical or judgmental?
- Are there areas where you are tempted to redefine truth or justify sin?
- What would it look like to evaluate teaching (including your own beliefs) by Scripture?



This document can be used for either personal or group reflection.

Group facilitator: Please feel empowered to use only the questions that are helpful for the context of your group.

Closing Prayer

- Praise God for being just, holy, and faithful to His people.
- Confess areas where you have been influenced by false ideas or compromised truth.
- Thank God that He rescues and preserves those who trust Him.
- Ask God for wisdom and discernment in a confusing world.
- Pray for a love of truth and a sensitivity to error.
- Ask God to protect His church from deception and division.

Optional Take-Home Reflection

- What is one practical way you can “consider and discern” more carefully this week when listening to voices around you?

