Sermon Discussion Questions

May the Word of God SHAPE and MOLD us into the image of Jesus!

[11.1.26 - Watch Sermon Video by CLICKING HERE]

11.1.26 - *SERMON RECAP:*

As we continue in 2 Peter we close out Peters teaching on False Teachers. The reminder for us all is to be cautious not to exchange the "Fleshly Freedom" powered by our sinful nature for the Truth of God's Divine Nature empowered by Christ's sacrifice. We are to guard against the self-life that is deep within our own nature and allow the gospel of Christ to shine upon us and reject being pigs of sin and become sheep of Christ's fold. May we walk in his Truth. Read 2 Peter 2:17-22, discuss these questions and other scriptures together, and may we allow God to shape and mold us more and more into His image!

DIGGING DEEPER:

1. Read: II Peter 2:17–19; John 8:31–36; Galatians 5:1, 13–14. Peter describes false teachers who promise freedom but are themselves slaves to corruption. Why do you think people often confuse freedom with the ability to do whatever they want? How does Jesus redefine freedom? How does surrendering to Him actually bring greater freedom than living according to our own desires?
2. Read: II Peter 2:19; Romans 6:12–18; Matthew 6:19–24; Colossians 3:1–5. We all place our trust, attention, and affection somewhere. How do our repeated choices reveal what is actually ruling our hearts? Can someone profess faith in Jesus while practically allowing money, approval, pleasure, comfort, or self-sufficiency to direct their life? How do we recognize when a good desire has become something that masters us?
3. Read: II Timothy 4:3–4; Romans 16:17–18; Galatians 1:6–9. Peter warns that false teachers use impressive words and appeal to sinful passions. Why is it sometimes easier to accept a message that affirms our desires than one that calls us to repentance and obedience?
4. Read: II Peter 2:20–22; II Corinthians 5:17; Romans 6:4–14; Ezekiel 36:25–27. Peter closes with two disturbing pictures of returning to what is unclean. How do we distinguish between outward behavior modification and the inward transformation that God brings?
5. Does following Jesus mean we never struggle with old sins, or does it mean something deeper about our new identity and the direction of our lives?
6. Are there old patterns, attitudes, or desires that you keep returning to instead of surrendering to Christ? What would it look like to address the heart beneath those patterns rather than simply trying to change your outward behavior?
7. Read: II Peter 1:3–9; Galatians 5:16–25; Ephesians 4:20–24; Colossians 3:9–17. Peter's warning in chapter 2 stands in contrast to his teaching in chapter 1 about becoming partakers of the divine nature and growing in Christlike qualities. What does it mean for the character of Jesus to increasingly shape our thoughts, desires, relationships, and actions? How do we depend on the Holy Spirit to produce this fruit rather than relying only on our own willpower?
8. Which quality of Christ's character do you most need the Spirit to grow in you right now—love, patience, humility, self-control, gentleness, or something else?
9. What spiritual practice could help you make room for His work in that area?