

Elementary Discussion Guide

THIS WEEK'S STORY:

Living Like Jesus

UNIT MEMORY VERSE:

2 Peter 1:3 "His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness."

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

How does the Holy Spirit help Christians? The Holy Spirit comforts us, shows us our sin, and guides us as we live for God's glory.

BIBLE PASSAGES:

2 Peter 1

TALK ABOUT IT

- 1. What did Peter say God has given us? everything required for life and godliness; 2 Peter 1:3
- 2. What should we have along with faith? goodness, knowledge, self-control, endurance, godliness, brotherly affection; 2 Peter 1:5-7
- 3. Why is it important to live for God? Think through God's purpose for each of us. We were created to glorify and love Him. We cannot be truly happy apart from His plans for us. After faith in Jesus, our mission is to lead others to Jesus. If we say we love Jesus, and live as though we do not, our witness is ineffective.
- 4. What are ways we can grow in godliness? Think about practical steps one can take to help grow in their walk with Christ—such as reading their Bibles daily, gathering with other believers to learn about God, praying, and worshiping God. Remember that doing these things does not save us. But for those of us saved by grace through faith, it does help us grow in godliness.
- 5. Who does the work of growing us in godliness? Discuss the combination between the Holy Spirit's power to change us and our responsibility to live for God. Remember that we cannot change ourselves, but with the Holy Spirit's power, we will be able to work towards loving and obeying God.
- 6. How can you live like Jesus right now?

 Remember when we trust Jesus, He
 empowers us to live for Him. We can live for
 Him in any situation we face. Think of one
 situation where you can show faith and trust
 in God as He develops the characteristics
 Peter mentioned (goodness, knowledge,
 self-control, patience, brotherly affection,
 and love).

APPLY IT

- 1. What does this story teach me about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, or the gospel?
- 2. What does this story teach me about myself?
- 3. Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- 4. Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- 5. How does this story help me live on mission better?

FOR FUN

Examine coins and paper money to find the unique features which identify it as the real thing. Use the Internet to learn more about the features that prevent counterfeiting.

Discuss how each of the characteristics Peter used in 2 Peter 1:5-8 help us know what real faith is like.

TO SERVE

Decide on a set of values your family wants to be known for. Some ideas might be love, service, fun, or some of the words Peter used in his letter. Talk about how living out these values glorifies God and can be a way of pointing others to Christ.

What is one way you can live out one of your family values this week?