

1. The Passage: 2 Peter 3 (Each Student gets 5-7 minutes to speak)

2. Emily's Passage: 2 Peter 3:1-9

- a. **3** Dear friends, this is now my second letter to you. I have written both of them as reminders to stimulate you to wholesome thinking. **2** I want you to recall the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets and the command given by our Lord and Savior through your apostles. **3** Above all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. **4** They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation." **5** But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens came into being and the earth was formed out of water and by water. **6** By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. **7** By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly. **8** But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. **9** The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

i. Explanation:

1. Peter says, remember the work Jesus did (a.k.a. The gospel) just like the prophets and apostles have said before. Peter then says, people, who follow their own desires and not Jesus, will come and mock Jesus' promise to return and say, "hey, didn't he say he was coming back...well, where is he then?...Everything has been the same since the beginning of creation". But they're forgetting about the judgement of the flood in Noah's time and how God says he will judge those who do not believe. We also have to remember that God's concept of time is not like ours. One of the reasons he hasn't judged the world yet is because he wants everyone to have the opportunity to turn and trust Jesus.

3. Hank's Passage 2 Peter 3:10-13

- a. **10** But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare. **11** Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives **12** as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens

by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. **13** But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

i. Explanation:

1. But, in that moment when Jesus returns, no one will have time to turn and trust in Jesus because it will happen quickly and when you least expect it. When Jesus returns everything will be destroyed by fire. If that's the case, shouldn't we be living differently than the world, sharing the gospel, and looking forward to the day when Jesus comes back. And after Jesus comes to get us, then we will live in a new earth with a new heaven where sin will no longer affect us.

4. Avery's Passage 2 Peter 3:14-16

- a. **14** So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him. **15** Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him. **16** He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction.

i. Explanation:

1. As long as it depends on you, live a life that is not entangled with sin, but live a life that is at peace with Jesus. God is being patient with us and he's holding off his return, so that others will believe and be saved. Peter says, "the Apostle Paul is saying the same thing I've been saying to you". Although there are people who distort God's Word because they don't understand what Paul is saying (referring mainly to the false teachers).

5. Brennan's Passage 2 Peter 3:17-18

- a. **17** Therefore, dear friends, since you have been forewarned, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless and fall from your secure position. **18** But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

i. Explanation:

1. Be on your guard, so you're not carried away and fall.

- a. The False teachers had an opportunity to embrace Jesus, but instead they refused him and his Word.
2. Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
 - a. The only way to keep from giving into wrong teaching and lies is to grow in your understanding of Jesus and what he has done.
3. He deserves the glory now and forever!
 - a. All the honor goes to Jesus and he will receive all the glory for all eternity.
4. Amen
 - a. This word means, "let it be so".

The Discussion:

1. How should we think/live since Jesus is coming back?
2. How do we grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ?