

Group Prayer Requests

The Gospel in Balance

March 4, 2018

2 Peter 1:1-12

The Power to Change

- The power to change comes from _____ (v. 3).
- We have access to God's power through the _____ (vv. 3-4).
- We have access to God's power so that we can become more like _____ (v. 4).

Gospel Indicatives vs. Gospel Imperatives

- Gospel: the _____, _____, and _____ of Jesus Christ
- Gospel Indicatives: _____ truths; our _____
- Gospel Imperatives: _____ truths; our _____

Gospel Insights

- A focus on the _____ of Christ and our _____ in Christ leads to our Christian _____.
- While believers may not strive to contribute to our _____, we are challenged to strive after _____.

Why Change Eludes Many Christians

- An overemphasis on _____
- An overemphasis on _____

The Benefits of Pursuing Change

- We avoid being _____ and _____ (v. 8).
- We avoid _____ and _____ – _____ (v. 9).
- We will be kept from _____ (v. 10).
- We will receive a warm _____ into heaven (v. 11).

Counseling for Change

- We are to continually _____ one another of gospel truths (v. 12).

Discussion Guide

Getting Started

What are some areas of your life where you've had doubts that you will ever change?

To what types of resources do people typically turn when they desire personal change?

Discussion

Read 1 Thessalonians 1:4–6

What does this passage have to say about the power of the gospel to change a person's life?

Talk about the differences between Gospel indicatives and Gospel imperatives (make sure that all group members have a clear understanding of these concepts).

Read Colossians 3:1–6

In this passage, identify what Paul says about (1) the person of Christ; (2) our position in Christ; and (3) our Christian practice.

Why is it important to keep a balanced focus on all three aspects of the gospel?

Read Ephesians 2:8–10

What is the difference between striving to contribute to your salvation and striving after change? Why is one dangerous and the other profitable?

Read 2 Peter 1:8–11

Which of the benefits of pursuing change most excites you? Why?

Read Romans 15:14–15

Why do we need to continually remind other believers (and be reminded ourselves) of gospel truths?