

ONE CONVERSATION

Parents: Read 2 Peter 1:3-11, then consider the following with your son or daughter.

One of the longest standing misconceptions about the Christian life is the idea that because we are saved by grace, we can live however we want. Paul was accused of teaching this on more than one occasion, and as a result, wrote letters to churches to clearly and passionately disprove this claim (Rom. 3:7-8, 6:1-11; Gal. 2:15-21). In Peter's second letter, it seems the churches he was writing to were dealing with some kind of similar false teaching. Apparently these false teachers were, in Peter's view, calling Christians to depart from true knowledge of Christ (2 Pet. 2:1-3) by thinking that they could live however they wanted. In response to such thinking, Peter reminded his readers that it is not enough to claim that we have been saved by grace through faith. Those who have truly been saved will demonstrate their salvation through godly living. The grace of God in Christ will fuel them to make an effort to grow to be more like Jesus in their actions and attitudes.

CENTRAL TRUTH

We are saved by grace, but we demonstrate our salvation in Christlike living.

PERSONAL CHALLENGE

- › **Dwell:** Make a list of God's great and precious promises to you in Christ. Put this list on a note card and tape the note card to your bathroom mirror. Each morning when you wake up and each evening before you go to bed, read these promises to yourself. Journal about how a greater awareness of God's promises to you in Christ should shape your thoughts and actions this week.
- › **Memorize:** 2 Peter 1:3
- › **Pray:** Thank God for Jesus. Thank Him for sending you a Savior who is not unfamiliar with your weaknesses. Thank Him not only for dying for your sins, but also for empowering you with everything you need for life and godliness. Ask Him to help you live with a greater awareness of His presence and power as you make diligent efforts to grow in Christ's likeness.