

ONE CONVERSATION

Parents: Read 2 Peter 2:1-3 and Jude 17-25. After having established the inspiration and authority of Scripture, Peter turns to a practical concern the churches of Asia Minor needed to address—the presence of false teachers in their midst. The danger of false teachers is probably not something you or your son or daughter thinks a lot about. It is, however, important to note that this subject plays heavily in the New Testament. It is likely that the false teachers that Peter and Jude warn against were similar in nature, both sought to redefine the gospel of Jesus Christ as license to do whatever they want and live however they want. This isn't all that different from the culture in which we live.

We often think that freedom means living however we want, however such a lifestyle is actually debilitating as we become slaves to our own appetites. Today's session focused on helping students identify, predict, and counter such false teaching. One of the key themes of our study of 1-2 Peter has been standing firm in the faith—this requires an awareness of the most common forms of false teaching around us—not only so that our faith will not be shaken, but also so that we might offer the hope of the gospel to the false teachers around us by calling them to repentance. Discuss false teaching with your son or daughter, and specifically how we should seek God for strength and ask Him to help to stand firm in the truth.

CENTRAL TRUTH

We counter false teaching by encouraging one another and looking to God for strength.

PERSONAL CHALLENGE

- › **Dwell:** All who follow Christ are called to know Him intimately and personally to such a degree that they are able to give an answer for the hope they have in Him to anyone who might ask. Don't fall into thinking that such is only the job of pastors and Christian professionals. This involves you speaking up when the gospel is questioned or compromised by false teaching. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life (John 14:6). If you truly love the people around you, you won't keep this good news to yourself!
- › **Memorize:** Jude 1:21
- › **Pray:** Thank God for loving us in spite of our doubts and struggles. Pray God would help us to rely on Him to help us overcome our doubts. Pray also that we would learn to seek out brothers and sisters in the church to help us bear our burdens, and that we would actively seek to help others bear others' burdens as well.