

# ***A Call to Spiritual Growth***

*2 Peter 1:1-4*

**Main Idea:** Today we begin a series in 2 Peter. This book is a call to spiritual growth in light of the tremendous challenges facing Christians in the 1<sup>st</sup> century. This morning, we'll do 3 things: We'll look at Peter as an example of spiritual growth. We'll overview the book which is a call to spiritual growth. And finally, we'll discover our resources for spiritual growth.

## **1. *THE MAN* – The apostle Peter was a man who displayed dramatic spiritual growth during his life. *2 Peter 1:1***

- A. Peter's background.
  - 1. He was a fisherman by trade.
  - 2. He was a family man by passion.
  - 3. He was a large man with a powerful personality.
- B. Peter's association with Jesus.
  - 1. Peter is the leader of the disciples.
  - 2. Peter received a name change.
  - 3. Peter's spiritual journey often served as an example of both the negative and positive.
- C. Peter's transformation after the resurrection.
  - 1. Peter is restored by Jesus.
  - 2. Peter is transformed in his personality.
  - 3. Peter becomes a major leader.
- D. Peter's later life.
  - 1. Peter travels throughout Asia Minor planting churches, and eventually gets to Rome.
  - 2. Peter works with John Mark on the second gospel.
  - 3. Peter was sentenced to death.

## **2. *THE BOOK* – Peter's second epistle is a call to spiritual growth. *2 Peter 1:2***

- A. The controversy over Second Peter.
- B. The message of Second Peter.
- C. The development of Second Peter.

## **3. *THE PORTFOLIO* – As the book begins we discover that Christians have amazing riches with which to grow. *2 Peter 1:3-4***

- A. The word picture – Think about your riches like a portfolio of assets.
- B. Asset #1 – We have God's divine power. 1:3a
  - 1. I want you to notice that God's power always has a Trinitarian focus.
  - 2. I want you to notice that God's power is always generous.
- C. Asset #2 – We have all things pertaining to life and godliness. 1:3b
- D. Asset #3 – We have the potential for the true knowledge of an excellent being. 1:3c
- E. Asset #4 – We have precious and magnificent promises. 1:4a
- F. Asset #5 – We have a noble goal. 1:4b
  - 1. Stated positively... we become partakers in the divine nature. 1:4b1
  - 2. Stated negatively... we escape the corruption of the world through lust. 1:4b2