



Growing in Christ

MCA
The Church on the Hill

Sermon Outline

Key verse

There will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them—bringing swift destruction on themselves.

2 Peter 2:1

The ABCs of Spiritual Discernment

1. Apply the Word of God!

Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. ¹⁴ But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

Hebrews 5:13-14

2. Beware of False Teachers!

Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves.

Matthew 7:15

3. Cling to Jesus

Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.³² Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

John 8:31-32

HOLD ONTO CHRIST

APRIL 27
DISCUSSION GUIDE

Opening Thought

The Bible warns about false teachers who will lead people astray. We must be on guard as we hold tightly to Christ and the good news of the gospel! When false teachers whisper sweet words into the ears of immature Christians, the body of Christ begins to break apart and lose sight of the most important thing: salvation through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Ice breakers

- Are you more gullible or do you tend to be skeptical?
- Do you think it is possible that aliens exist?

Dig Deeper

- Peter has very strong words for the destiny that awaits false teachers. Read Matthew 18:6-7 to hear Jesus' similar teaching. What strikes you about this?
- Since the judgement that awaits these false teachers is so plain, why does anyone follow them?
- Can you think of a time that you heard false or heretical teaching? Share about it.
- Read 2 Peter 2:19. In what way can flagrant, defiant sin enslave a person? Is there any way out of these sins? If so, what is the path? How can we truly love the sinner and hate the sin? How can we steer clear of a quick judgmental attitude toward those who sin?
- How do you tend to respond the idea of doctrine? ("It's important!" "I don't really think about it much." "Who cares? Just give me Jesus." Etc.)
- What practical steps can you take to deeper your understanding of God's Word to better shield yourself and your family from false teaching?
- Jesus says, "you will know them by their fruit." What fruit is your life yielding?

Closing

Keep growing in Christ! Learn the ABCs of spiritual discernment. Press on to know the truth of the gospel and distinguish good from evil! As you mature in Christ, you will bear good fruit and be prepared to share the life-giving power of Jesus with the world.