



Leader Conversation Guide – XXVII - 2 Peter

Main Idea

This week, Pastor Cody continued our XXVII series with a message from 2 Peter. He emphasized the importance of truly knowing God through personal experiences rather than just intellectual knowledge. He highlighted 2 Peter 1:3 and the story of David and Goliath to show how encounters with God strengthen our faith. Pastor Cody also challenged us to evaluate our spiritual priorities, warning against pursuing the wrong goals, and encouraged us to embrace vulnerability before God for deeper intimacy with Him.

...for His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. 2 PETER 1:3

Make It Practical:

Scriptural Foundation:

- 2 Peter 1:3 emphasizes that God's divine power grants us everything necessary for life and godliness through the knowledge of Him.
- Epignósis is a term used to describe this "contact-knowledge," which is about experiencing God personally.
- Ephesians 3:18-19 reinforces the idea of comprehending the vastness of Christ's love, which surpasses mere doctrinal knowledge.

Practical Application:

- The story of David in 1 Samuel 17:33-37 illustrates the power of knowing God through personal experiences, such as David's confidence in facing Goliath based on his past encounters with God's deliverance.
- Vulnerability before God is essential. It invites deeper intimacy, as highlighted in Revelation 3:20, where Jesus calls us to open the door of our hearts to Him.

Talk About It

Encountering God in Scripture:

- The sermon mentions the concept of “epignósis,” which refers to first-hand experiential knowledge of God. How has your understanding of God deepened through specific passages of Scripture? Can you share a time when a particular verse or story in the Bible resonated with you on a personal level and led to a transformative encounter with God?

Spiritual Priorities:

- Henry Blackaby’s quote warns against placing our efforts in the wrong pursuits (“the wrong wall”). How do you determine if the “ladder” you are climbing in your life aligns with God’s will? What steps can you take to ensure your focus remains on knowing God above all else?

Vulnerability and Faith:

- Revelation 3:20 speaks about Jesus knocking at the door, waiting for us to open it. How does vulnerability play a role in deepening our relationship with God? Are there areas in your life where you find it difficult to be vulnerable before God, and how might opening up in those areas lead to spiritual growth?

You were created to encounter God on a daily basis.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for our time together and for the truths we’ve learned today. Draw us closer to You and help us to know You more deeply. Guide us to align our lives with Your will and to trust in Your plans. May Your presence be with us, strengthening our faith and deepening our love for You. In Jesus’ Name. Amen.

Leader Tip

Biker Blessing is happening on September 8th! Do you have a biker friend you can invite to this event?