

Portrait of a
False Teacher
2 Peter 2:10-22



- Read through this passage. How would you characterize Peter's emotion in this text? Do you think he is upset? Why or why not?
- Do think it is right for the apostle or a pastor to respond to people or teachers in this way? Why or why not? How is this different from what we usually think of as engaging people?
- When you think of false teachers and their teaching, what comes to mind? Do specific errors or teachers stand out? Why? Do others in your group also think of them as false teachers?
- Look through the passage. What attitudes does Peter ascribe to the false teachers? How do these attitudes play off of one another?
- Have you seen, read, or interacted with false teachers with these attitudes? Tell the group about your experience. Why does this make it difficult to confront these teachings?
- What does Peter identify as the motives of the false teachers? Has he talked about this before? Where? How does he describe these motives?
- Have you seen these motives in false teachers? How do they work themselves out? Why is this dangerous? How does it show up in their teaching or lives?
- Peter points back to the OT as an example or patriarch for the false teachers. Who does he point to? Look at Numbers 22-24. What is his story? How does he match up with the descriptions given in this passage?
- What is the fate of these false teachers? How will they be affected now? How will they be judged later?
- How do we guard ourselves from these types of errors? What should we do?
- How would you describe the dangerous state described in 2 Pet 2:20-22? What is Peter writing about? How could this affect those exposed to false teaching?