



April 12, 2026 | Matt Magee

Series: Fully Equipped: Pursuing Christian Maturity (2 Peter)

Sermon Title: Discernment That Drives You to Jesus

Main Scripture: 2 Peter 3:14-18

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CHURCH BODY HIGHLIGHTS

1. [Past Newsletters](#)
2. Transforming Prayer Seminar – April 20th
3. Get connected to a small group / Next Steps
4. Opportunities to disciple and come alongside new believers

ICEBREAKER

Opening Metaphor:

“Life is like driving on a roadway filled with signs, guardrails, and hazards. The difference between arriving safely and crashing often comes down to discernment.”

Discuss:

- Think back to when you first learned to drive. What made driving feel overwhelming at first? What helped you grow in confidence over time?
- Why is it dangerous to drive without understanding the rules of the road—and how is that similar to living the Christian life without discernment?

1. The Truth: A Discerning Walk with Christ

Read: 2 Peter 3:14

Discuss:

- Peter calls believers “beloved” and urges them to be diligent, at peace, and found without blemish.
- How does understanding that you are deeply loved (“beloved”) change your motivation for obedience?

Focus Question:

- The sermon defined discernment as the Spirit-empowered ability to distinguish truth from error and apply God’s Word rightly.
- How does biblical discernment go beyond simply knowing right from wrong and move into choosing what is best?

2. The Tension: Truth Can Be Twisted

Read: 2 Peter 3:15–16

Discuss:

- Peter warns that some people twist Scripture to their own destruction.
- Why do you think people distort God's Word? What are some modern examples of this?

Focus Question:

- The passage says some things in Scripture are "hard to understand," but not impossible.
- What role do study, community, and the Holy Spirit play in helping you grow in understanding God's Word?

3. The Struggle: Losing Stability

Read: 2 Peter 3:17

Discuss:

- Peter warns believers not to be "carried away" and lose their stability.
- What are some things in today's world that threaten to pull Christians off course?

Focus Question:

- The sermon highlighted the danger of believing we are growing when we are not ("phony growth").
- What are some ways we might unknowingly minimize sin or lower God's standard in our lives?

4. The Gospel: Anchored in Truth

Read: 2 Peter 3:18

Discuss:

- We are called to "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."
- Why is it important that growth happens in both grace and knowledge, not just one or the other?

Focus Question:

- How does knowing Christ through His Word anchor your life in a way that feelings, culture, or personal opinion cannot?

5. The Response: Living with Discernment

Discuss:

The sermon emphasized that the Christian life is not stagnant but an active walk of discernment rooted in love.

Which of these areas do you most need to grow in right now?

- Prayer

- Reading Scripture
- Studying Scripture
- Memorizing Scripture
- Discipling others
- Sharing your faith

Application Question:

What is one specific step you can take this week to grow in discernment through God's Word?

CLOSING CHALLENGE

Reflect:

- "What if we lived lives of eternal gratefulness so fully that we took every opportunity to share discerned truth, through the fullness of His knowledge, loving others as He has loved us?"
- How would your daily interactions change if this became your mindset?