



2 Peter 1:1-14

Simeon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who have obtained a faith of equal standing with ours by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ: 2 May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

3 His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, 4 by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. 5

For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, 6 and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, 7 and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love.

8 For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. 10 Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. 11 For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

12 Therefore I intend always to remind you of these qualities, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. 13 I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to stir you up by way of reminder, 14 since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me.

1:3-4 | Growth-Equipped

Four Realities:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

1:5-7 | Growth Areas

Pistis – “faith”, the seedbed from which Christlike character springs

Arete – “virtue”, holy moral character, moral excellence

Gnosis – “knowledge”, personal experiential knowledge, knowledge through practice

Egkrateian – “self-control”, self-discipline, self-restraint

Hupomone – “steadfastness”, perseverance, endurance through tests and trials

Eusebian – “godliness”, a God-pleasing way, a God-orientation

Philadelphia – “brotherly-affection”, a family type of affection, fondness, kindness

Agape – “love”, self-sacrificial love

1:8-10a | Growth Anticipated

Three Expectations:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

1:10b-11 | Growth Encouraged

Two Promises:

- 1.
- 2.

Growth Worksheet

⁵ For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, ⁶ and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, ⁷ and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love.

How are we to apply this change?

Because of what God has granted us (vs 3-4), we are to “*make every effort to supplement*” our faith.

- **What does it mean to “*make every effort*”?** This command pictures us “bringing in every effort” and involves “all the determination one can muster” in giving an “urgent and focused response”.
- **What does it mean to “*supplement*”?** This literally means that we are to “outfit completely”, “to supply more than expected or demanded”, and to “furnish generously” our faith.
- **What about this list of growth areas? How does each area relate to the one that follows it?** The sense is that you ought to outfit your faith in such a way that it is not wanting in virtue, and that you must outfit your virtue in such a way that it is not wanting in knowledge, etc.

In what areas should we apply this change?

YOUR “FAITH” (*pistis*) – the seedbed from which Christlike character springs

How strong/mature is your faith? In what ways does your faith need to be outfitted with greater moral character?

YOUR “VIRTUE” (*arete*) – holy moral character, moral excellence, high integrity

How solid is your moral character? In what ways does your moral character need to be outfitted with greater practical knowledge?

YOUR “KNOWLEDGE” (*gnosin*) – personal experience, knowledge gained through practice

How knowledgeable are you of what it means to live the Christ-like life? How would your practical knowledge of the Christ-like life be further enhanced by self-discipline and self-control?

YOUR “SELF-CONTROL” (*egkrateian*) – self-discipline, self-restraint

Are you known for your self-discipline? How would your self-discipline be further steeled by a longer endurance in trying situations?

YOUR “STEADFASTNESS” (*hupomone*) – perseverance, endurance through tests and trials

Are you a person of enduring faith under pressure? How would your spiritual endurance be strengthened by greater godliness in trials?

YOUR “GODLINESS” (*eusebian*) – a God-pleasing way, a God-orientation, God-centeredness

Are you godly? Do you influence others through your godliness without coming across as “holier-than-thou”? How would your godliness be refined by a deeper affection for others?

YOUR “BROTHERLY-AFFECTION” (*philadelphia*) – a family type of affection, fondness, kindness

Are you affectionate for your brothers and sisters in Christ? In what ways are you willing to sacrifice for the family of Christ? How would a greater measure of self-sacrifice deepen your family ties?

OUR “LOVE” (*agapen*) – self-sacrificial love

Jesus said, “By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:35) The Apostle John wrote, “By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.” (1 John 3:16) Are we a church known for our love and willingness to sacrifice for one another?