

## **“Add to Your Faith” - #5**

*Maturing to Perfection in Your Walk With the Lord*

May 3, 2026

### **2 Peter 1:1-9**

*Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge \*(experiential) of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.*

### **Last Week: The Great Dilemma**

#### **Add to your Faith: Seven Qualities of a Kingdom Person**

- Virtue - godly thinking, attitude and conduct
- Knowledge - Committed to spiritual growth
- Self-Control - in command of one's faculties/appetites
- Perseverance - Stick with it!

#### **Perseverance**

- Persevere - to remain steadfast and faithful in the midst of trials, pressure, or delay
- The resolve to stick with it
- Not a quitter
  - Steadfastness - not wavering
  - Endurance - continuing over time
  - Faithfulness - staying true to what you're hearing from the Father

- Consistency - not quitting when it's hard
- Not just surviving—it's staying the course.
- Committed to the call of God on your life
- Dependent on the Holy Spirit to guide you into your destiny
- Eager to learn life's lessons and walk in newness
- Understands generational progression *\*(what you do affects the next generation)*
- Gets back up!
- Eye on the prize - **Philippians 3:14** - *"I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus"*
- Disciplined
- **Matthew 10:38** - *"And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me"*
- **2 Timothy 2:4** - *"No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier."*
- Noah - Staying obedient when it doesn't make sense *\*(100 year project)*
- A determination to see the Kingdom come
- You can't finish strong if you quit!
- Every great person you can think of has had thoughts of quitting
- Paul - beaten, snakebite, shipwrecked, ostracized, ....but stayed the course
- Jesus Christ — Endured the cross for the joy set before Him (**Hebrews 12:2**)
- **Philippians 3:12** - *"Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me"*
- **2 Corinthians 4:7-9** - *"But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed"*
- **Galatians 6:9** - *"And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart."*
- **Hebrews 12:1** - *"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which*

*doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us....”*

- **1 Peter 4:12** - *“Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you”*
- **2 Timothy 3:12** - *“Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution”*
- **John 16:33** - *“These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”*
- The Christian life is not easy
- If you think it’s too hard....wait ’til you get the bill on regret!
- It’s much harder ‘not’ doing it - - Choose your hard!
- **James 1:12** - *“Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him”*
- **2 Timothy 4:7** - *“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”*

## **Godliness**

- Reverence/devotion for God
- Hunger for God’s presence
- Eager for the lordship of Jesus
- Obedience to the things of God; the Kingdom
- Walks/lives by faith
- Displays true humility
- Compassionate - \*genuine heart level love /Learning to love like Jesus
- A deep understanding that true godliness is the by-product of relationship with the Father
- Allows the thorough, inner transformation of the Holy Spirit
- Surrendered, all in, nothing held back
- Nothing hidden - What you see is what you get
- No personal agenda
- Impeccable character
- Wholesome words
- Growing in the fruit of the Spirit

- **Galatians 5:22-23** - *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law”*
- Characteristics of being conformed into the image of Jesus
- **Ephesians 4:22-24** - *“...put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness”*

### **Brotherly kindness**

- Close kin to agape but in a more relational way
- Celebrates the success of others
- Makes everyone on the ‘team’ better
- A ‘brother’s keeper’
- Love for family
- A friend who can be depended on
  - Affectionate
  - Loyal
  - Honoring
  - Patient
  - Forgiving
  - Generous
  - Encouraging
  - Compassionate
  - Respectful
  - Supportive
  - Selflessness
  - Hospitable
  - Understanding
  - Empathetic *\*(sympathetic - I feel bad for you; Emphatic - I feel what you feel)*
  - Available
- Brotherly kindness is love expressed in relationships