

Notes:

Sierra Community Church January 24th, 2020 Part 5- Dan Wilvers



How God's Power, our Pursuit, lead to Growth and Eternal life 2 Peter 1:3-11

I. God has already given us all we need to be spiritually mature.

³ His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. ⁴ Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

II. Believers must pursue spiritual growth.

⁵ For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; ⁶ and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; ⁷ and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. ⁸ For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins.

III. Stay the course and you will triumphantly enter Heaven

¹⁰ Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble, ¹¹ and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

This is God's Word

Questions:

1. What needs to happen for you to better understand that you have all you need to live the life Christ called you to live?

2. 2 Peter clearly lays out the idea that while we are made right by faith and thereby Christ's very own, that we are not to take that truth for granted. Rather we need to pursue Christian maturity.

In what areas do you most struggle with Christian virtue? Would you be willing to share this struggle with another believer? (If you are in a small group setting, and haven't established trust enough to share with a group is there one person there you might feel safe in approaching after the group meeting?)

3. When it says, "make every effort", what comes to mind that you can work on so you can say you're making every effort?

I. Spiritual Growth is Gradual

The more you grow like this, the more productive and useful you will be in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 1:8

"Like newborn babes, drink in the spiritual milk of God so that you grow up into your salvation." 1 Peter 2:2

II. Spiritual Growth Will Happen

¹⁰Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble. 2 Peter 1:10

Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. Ephesians 1:4

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus *to do good works*, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:8-10

For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective. ⁹But those who fail to develop in this way are shortsighted or blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their old sins. 2 Peter 1:8,9

His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him... 2 Peter 1:3

For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith 2 Peter 1:5

How do I do that?

A. You must pay the price of time with God.

"His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our **knowledge** of him ..." 2 Peter 1:3

For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your **knowledge** of our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 1:8

When you read the Bible, you're- hearing from Him.

When you examine, confess gratefully, that's prayer, you're-speaking to him.

When you're hearing him in his Word, He's- speaking to you.

B. You must pay the price of being vulnerable with people

...and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. 2 Peter 1:7

If you really want to grow spiritually; you must be humble and honest about your own sins out loud to others. There is no other way. Brotherly and sisterly love is built upon being truly vulnerable with one another.

"Exhort one another daily or you'll be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin." Hebrews 3:13

C. You must pay the price of submitting to God's will

...and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; ... 2 Peter 1:6

Let me give you a definition of perseverance.

It means that when you suffer, if you stand your ground, by doing all of the things God was requiring of you before you started suffering, it's going to turn you into something great.

Our motive:

For if you do these things, you will never stumble, ¹¹ and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 1:10,11

Everywhere the Bible points to all believer's living with God forever. This past week may have been tedious, discouraging, hurtful, but God promises that all your devotion to Him will be rewarded. Your almost there. Never think about quitting.