

Studies in 2 Peter  
Building Upon Your Faith  
**2 Peter 1:5-11**

## 2 Peter - Previously

- We have introduced the book of 2 Peter, noting how he reminded them that God, through His divine power has given us “all things that pertain to life and godliness.” This came through “the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue.”
- Recall Peter’s primary focus, to warn and equip them to deal with false teachers.
- Knowledge is a prime factor in accomplishing this!

## Building upon your faith

- With this in mind, Peter begins his teaching by emphasizing our need to be growing in our faith.  
Our solid faith will give us victory over ungodliness.
- Today, we begin an examination of this section.

## For this reason- 1:5

- Peter is clearly tying this back to his introduction.
- Recall that in our last lesson we addressed how we are “partakers of the divine nature” and thereby we have escaped the corruption that is in the world through lusts.
- False teachers will endanger both of these qualities. That is why Peter issues the warnings he does later in this letter.

## Giving all diligence - 1:5

- Diligence – a word meaning to put forth intense effort. Described as eagerness or excited fervor to do something.  
“To bring every effort to... to do one’s very best in attempting to do something.” (L&N 68.64)
- **Romans 12:8, 11** – we do what we can with diligence
- **2 Corinthians 7:11** – diligence in repentance
- **Hebrews 6:10-11** – show the same diligence

## Giving all diligence - 1:5

- In this expression, Peter indicates that man has a part in his salvation.
- We have to be putting forth the effort!

## Add to your faith - 1:5-7

- Add – building upon that which is already in existence.
- There are various ways these sets of qualities are described
  - A tree, with faith as the trunk
  - Formulaic, tying together faith and love
  - A pyramid, with faith as foundation & love the pinnacle
  - An orchestra with all parts working in harmony
- A staircase with faith as the foundational step

# Add to your faith - 1:5-7

**Love** - 1 Corinthians 13

**Brotherly kindness** - Romans 12:10

**Godliness** - 1 Timothy 4:7-8

**Perseverance** - Galatians 6:9

**Self-control** - 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

**Knowledge** - Romans 10:17

**Virtue** - cf. Acts 4:17-21

**Faith** - Hebrews 11:1, 6



## Add to your faith - 1:5-7

- Faith – Our foundation
- **Hebrews 11:1** – *the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*  
**NASB, ESV** – assurance, conviction  
**NET** – “*Now faith is being sure of what we hope for, being convinced of what we do not see.*”  
**NCV** – “*Faith means being sure of the things we hope for and knowing that something is real even if we do not see it*”

Faith - Hebrews 11:1, 6

## Add to your faith - 1:5-7

- Faith – Our foundation
- **2 Corinthians 5:7** – *we walk by faith and not by sight*  
**Hebrews 11:6**  
**1 John 5:4**  
**James 2:14ff** – it must be active and responsive

Faith - Hebrews 11:1, 6

## Add to your faith - 1:5-7

- Faith – Our foundation
- We are doing something **Hebrews 11**
  - 11:4** – Abel “offered”
  - 11:5** – Enoch “walked with God”
  - 11:7** – Noah “prepared an ark...”
  - 11:8, 9, 17** – Abraham, “went out”, “dwelt”, “offered up Isaac”
  - 11:23-27** – Moses “was hidden”, “refused to be called...”, “forsook Egypt”, “kept the Passover”

Faith - Hebrews 11:1, 6

## Add to your faith - 1:5-7

- Virtue – Moral excellence
  - Associated with integrity
    - Living an honorable and good life
    - Courageously standing for convictions
- Acts 4:17-21** – Peter & John before the council
- Fundamental to building the following qualities

Virtue - cf. Acts 4:17-21

## Add to your faith - 1:5-7

- Knowledge – Understanding God's word

- **Romans 10:17**

As we learn & understand more, our faith will be increasing.

The better prepared we are to face trials, false teachers, and life

**Ephesians 4:14-16, Colossians 1:23**

It comes after virtue, because we need integrity as we consider God's word

**Knowledge - Romans 10:17**

## Add to your faith - 1:5-7

- Self-control – Discipline as we apply His word
- We will face temptations - we must resist.  
There are tasks we need to choose to do, even when we do not want to.  
Also, we need to make wise choices, sometimes between good, better and best

**1 Corinthians 9:24-27**

Self-control - 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

## Add to your faith - 1:5-7

- Perseverance – patience
- As we grow, we will face set-backs, obstacles and challenges - **Matthew 7:13-14**  
Some things will take time  
With knowledge and self-discipline, we will not give up – **Galatians 6:9**

Perseverance - Galatians 6:9

## Add to your faith - 1:5-7

- Godliness – reverence, piety
- As we mature, we have greater appreciation for who our God and Lord are. We honor Them more fervently

**1 Timothy 4:7-8** – Exercise yourself toward godliness

This will affect how we interact with others

**Godliness - 1 Timothy 4:7-8**



## Add to your faith - 1:5-7

- Brotherly kindness – affection for brothers
- As we mature, it will have greater impact on how we treat others, especially preferring our brethren

**John 13:34-35, Romans 12:10,  
Hebrews 13:1**

High in our process because of all the groundwork that has been established to affect how we treat each other.

**Brotherly kindness - Romans 12:10**

## Add to your faith - 1:5-7

- Love – agape or Christian love
- “Caring enough to sacrifice for what is best”  
The pinnacle achievement of our faith  
It will impact EVERY relationship we are in!  
**1 Corinthians 13:13, 12:31**  
In lists, it is always prominent (either first or last)

Love - 1 Corinthians 13

## Add to your faith - 1:5-7

- As we mature in the faith, we need all of these qualities to continue to develop. They will draw us closer to God and protect us from “the evil one” and his followers (including false teachers)  
**1:8-11** describes the results when we possess and FULLY develop these qualities. That will be our next study!

Do these qualities  
define who you  
are?

Let us pray!