

***Faith Doesn't Quit In Difficult Circumstances!***  
***Game Plan 2016: Everything We Need For Life And Godliness!***

***Pt. 4***

2 Peter 1:5-9  
February 7, 2016

**2 Peter 1:5**, *For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; <sup>6</sup>and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; <sup>7</sup>and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins.*

**1) Faith Doesn't Stand Around With Its Hands In Its Pockets**

- The 1<sup>st</sup> Virtue Of Genuine Faith Is Moral Goodness
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Virtue Of Genuine Faith Is Increasing Knowledge
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> Virtue Of Genuine Faith Is Self-Control
- The 4<sup>th</sup> Virtue Of Genuine Faith Is **PERSEVERANCE**

**2 Peter 1:5**, *For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith ... <sup>6</sup>...perseverance...*

**Thought:** *Hupomone* is usually translated patience, but patience is too passive a word... *Hupomone* does not simply accept and endure; there is always a forward look in it.

**Hebrews 12:1**, *Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, <sup>2</sup>fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before Him He endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.*

- The 5<sup>th</sup> Virtue Of Genuine Faith Is **GODLINESS**

**2 Peter 1:5**, *For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith ... <sup>6</sup>...godliness*

**Thought:** *Eusebeia* literally means to worship well and is an almost untranslatable Greek word. Godliness is "reverence towards the one and only God, and the kind of life that He would wish us to lead." It describes the character of the person who never fails God, man or himself.

**1 Timothy 4:7**, *...train yourself to be godly. <sup>8</sup>For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.*

**1 Timothy 6:6**, *But godliness with contentment is great gain. <sup>7</sup>For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it... <sup>10</sup>For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. <sup>11</sup>But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. <sup>12</sup>Fight the good fight of the faith...*

- The 6<sup>th</sup> Virtue Of Genuine Faith Is **MUTUAL AFFECTION**

**2 Peter 1:5**, *For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith ... <sup>7</sup>and to godliness, mutual affection...*

**Thought:** *Philadelphia* means fraternal love or brotherly kindness. In secular Greek literature, *Philadelphia* was used to describe the love family members held towards one another, but in the New Testament it was used to describe the

love that believers possess for one another even though they were members of different natural families.

**Romans 12:9**, *Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.* <sup>10</sup>*Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.* <sup>11</sup>*Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.* <sup>12</sup>*Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.* <sup>13</sup>*Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.*

**Galatians 6:9**, *Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.* <sup>10</sup>*Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.*

## 2) A Growing Faith Is Productive And UNSELFISH

**2 Peter 1:8**, *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.* <sup>9</sup>*But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins.*

**Concluding Reminder:** Only one life will soon be past, only what's done for God will last!

### **Biblical Formula: Faith + Effort = Success**

- 1) Look at the 7 Keys to Spiritual Growth: Send us an email at [info@cottonwoodcreek.org](mailto:info@cottonwoodcreek.org), so we can help you connect in one or more of those areas.
- 2) Read the 77 Days to Easter Devotional provided in the Creek Guide or online at [cottonwoodcreek.org/reading-plan](http://cottonwoodcreek.org/reading-plan), on Twitter: [@cottonwoodfam](https://twitter.com/cottonwoodfam), [@johnmarkcaton](https://twitter.com/johnmarkcaton) or on Facebook: John Mark Caton.