

Title: Growing in Faith

Text: 2 Peter 1:1-4

Introduction

Peter was one of the prominent leaders in the early church. Peter was often overconfident in his early years, even when danger was present, and he often overlooked the Lord's warnings. He was courageous, to be sure, but he was also a careless Christian. But thanks be to God, Peter learned the lessons of true faith.

1. In his second epistle, Peter's emphasis is on the _____ of God.
2. When Peter uses the word "know", he means a living participant _____ the truth.
3. The best way to detect a _____ is to understand the characteristics of the truth.

I. The Christian Life Begins With Faith

4. Our standing with the Lord today is the _____ as that of the early apostles.
5. The first Christians had no particular _____ over us simply because they were privileged to walk with Christ.
6. Christian life begins with _____, not religion, not in church doctrine, not in keeping rituals and tradition, but in a person!
7. Peter affirms the _____ of the Lord Jesus Christ by calling Him God and our Savior.
8. The word "Savior" also carried with it the idea of "_____ and safety".
9. Jesus _____ us from the kind of sin that destroys a person's soul and robs them of eternal life.

II. Christ Provides All You Need To Live The Christian Life

10. You also experience God's _____ in your life when you know Christ personally.
11. Christianity is much more than a religion; it is a _____ with Christ.
12. When you have Christ in your heart, you have everything you need for a life of _____.
13. The Bible teaches that when we first become followers of Christ, we start out as _____.
14. Little by little, we grow into the _____ person God wants us to be for His glory.
15. The blessings of God are available for our _____ experiences!
16. Faith involves us in God's _____.
17. God has also given us His _____ to help us develop this life and godliness.
18. Peter says that a great life flows from _____.
19. When you welcome the Lord Jesus Christ into your life, you become a whole new _____, and Jesus allows you to share God's divine nature.
20. Just as a baby shares the nature of its parents, a new believer shares God's _____ nature.

III. God imparts His divine nature So You Can Live The Christian Life

21. Those who have faith in Christ are no longer under the _____ of corruption.

22. Nature is what determines our _____.

23. Nature shapes our _____.

24. Nature impacts the _____.

25. Nature affects _____.

Conclusion

If nature regulates our appetite and we have God's nature within us, then shouldn't we have an appetite for godly character, integrity, holiness, and purity? Shouldn't our Christian behavior be like Christ's? What about our associations? Shouldn't they give witness to our faith in Christ?

26. Because we possess this divine nature, shouldn't we be able to escape the _____ and decay in this present evil world?

27. Godly living is the result of cultivating the new _____ and feeding it with the manna of the Word of God.

To live the Christian life, you need an abundance of faith.

28. Faith in the _____ of the Lord Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior.

29. Faith in the _____ of God to produce His life and godliness within you.

30. Faith in the _____ of God's Word that nurtures the divine nature within you.

Knowing and growing in the Christian life is a matter of faith. You cannot inherit eternal life on your own merits. We need Holy Spirit strength to live a godly life. Put your faith in Christ and trust God's promises to effectively deal with all the circumstances and situations you encounter in life.

ANSWERS

1. knowledge
2. in
3. fraud
4. same
5. advantage
6. faith
7. deity
8. health
9. delivers
10. power
11. relationship
12. godliness
13. babes
14. spiritual
15. everyday
16. promises
17. Word
18. faith
19. person
20. divine
21. bondage
22. appetite
23. behavior
24. environment
25. association
26. defilement
27. nature
28. person
29. power
30. promises

QUESTIONS FOR MEDITATION

1. How is the fact that Jesus is your “Savior” a comfort and a help to you given what you have to face this week?
2. What area of my life best displays God’s divine nature? What area in my life could use some more growth?
3. How has your new Godly nature affected your likes/dislikes, behavior, environment and friends?