

Series: Seven Additions to Faith

Title: Virtue

Text: 2 Peter 1:5-11

Introduction

To live the Christian life, we must receive the faith of Christ and live our life with His faith. But Peter says that there are several things we need to add to our faith to become mature, effective believers.

Review on growing in faith:

1. You cannot _____ God without it.
2. Everything not of faith is _____.
3. Faith is in the _____.
4. Practicing faith at an all-time _____.
5. Peter says faith comes through the _____ of God and our savior Jesus Christ.
6. The Bible says that every _____ has faith.
7. As we _____ the presence of the Holy Spirit within us, we grow in faith and experience the supernatural work of Christ
8. It is the _____ who guides us into all truth.
9. The tragedy is that many Christians today live far below their _____ in Christ Jesus.
10. By _____ our faith and following the principles of the Word of God, we become partakers of the Divine nature and escape the lust of the flesh.

11. The truths and blessings contained in the Word of God are not intellectually discerned; they are _____ revealed.
12. Remember, receiving Christ as your savior and developing your faith is only the _____ of living the Christian life.
13. God's goal for us is to be _____.

I. Defining Virtue

14. What is virtue? The New American Standard version calls it: _____ Excellence.
15. The word virtue is an _____ word.
16. It describes a _____ for action and effort.
17. The word "virtue" means the extraordinary quality of a person or _____.
18. You must turn your _____ on the old lifestyle and start living the way God wants you to.
19. To live the Christian life, you _____ the life you've been living and ask God to give you a whole new life
20. First, you must admit you are not following God's plan for your life, which, yes, makes you a _____!
21. Secondly, you must be willing to give up your sinful living, receive Christ's _____, and accept the new life He offers you.
22. That future involves becoming a _____ person than you could have ever imagined!

II. Partaking of the Divine Nature

23. When you become a partaker of His divine nature; you begin to mirror and reflect the _____ of Christ.
24. When we become Christians, we begin to _____ the light of God's Son in our life.
25. The only Christ that some people will ever _____ is the Christ that lives in you.
26. We are an _____, a living letter describing God's moral excellence and goodness.
27. Some try to convince themselves that sinful behavior is OK. But that doesn't persuade God, and it only _____ your virtue.
28. When you follow Christ, you may not be _____, but you will be virtuous.

III. Reflecting the Divine Nature

29. Christians don't model the _____; they follow Christ!
30. Virtue is faith in _____ action.
31. Sometimes one thing happens by virtue of another, or the _____ of one thing actually produces another.
32. There should always be something within us of the virtue and character of Christ that causes people to sit up and take _____.
33. The virtue of God is _____ in energy and power through us when we act in faith.
34. As we demonstrate the virtue of Christ in how we _____, it draws others who need God's help and gives them hope to believe that God can meet their needs too!

Conclusion

35. You might say it is the _____ for doing what is right!
36. The world needs to see _____ who have this full virtue of Christ!
37. The kind of virtue that when they walk into the room, the reflection of Jesus in their lives makes people want to find out what makes them so _____.

What kind of person would you be if you followed Christ every day? Paul says it all starts with a faith encounter with Christ. But Peter says it takes more than just faith to impact your world. We must add virtue to our faith and become fruitful in reflecting the very nature and presence of Christ.

Answers:

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| 1. please | 14. Moral | 27. undermines |
| 2. sin | 15. action | 28. fashionable |
| 3. present | 16. readiness | 29. world |
| 4. low | 17. hero | 30. energetic |
| 5. righteousness | 18. back | 31. power |
| 6. believer | 19. give up | 32. notice |
| 7. release | 20. sinner | 33. released |
| 8. Holy Spirit | 21. forgiveness | 34. live |
| 9. privileges | 22. better | 35. grace |
| 10. practicing | 23. image | 36. Christians |
| 11. spiritually | 24. reflect | 37. different and
unique |
| 12. beginning | 25. meet | |
| 13. fruitful | 26. open book | |

QUESTIONS FOR MEDITATION

1. What aspect of your old lifestyle has been the hardest to turn your back on?
2. How well do people see Christ's reflection in your life? What keeps them from seeing Christ more clearly?
3. What aspect of Christian virtue do most people see in your life?