

2 Peter & Jude

MAKE EVERY EFFORT

2 Peter 1:5-11

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.

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.

BIG IDEA — Grace does not eliminate effort; grace empowers intentional spiritual growth.

1. Spiritual growth begins with what God has already done. (v. 5a)

⁵ For this very reason...

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.

2. Faith is the foundation, not the finish line. (vv. 5b – 7, 10-11)

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perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; ⁷ and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love.

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3. Growth is intentional and cumulative. (vv. 5-8a)

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⁸ For if you possess these qualities *in increasing measure*

Phil. 2:12-13

¹² Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

4. Fruitfulness is the evidence of healthy faith.

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.

James 2:14-17

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? ¹⁵ Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. ¹⁶ If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? ¹⁷ In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

5. Remembering grace protects us from spiritual stagnation.

But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins.