

Living Hope – 2 Peter – Week 2 – 2 Peter 1:5-11

**2 Peter 1:5-11:** *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.*

*<sup>10</sup> Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble,<sup>11</sup> and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

INTRO to Series – “Everything We Need: 2 Peter”:

-As we approach the midpoint of this year, the challenges around us are too many to count. It's sometimes hard to know who to trust, how to think, and how to keep our hearts from growing cold. In the Apostle Peter's second letter to the Church, God assures us that through His divine power, we have EVERYTHING WE NEED to live a faithful life in godliness and goodness. As we study this letter together, we will be encouraged further that when our lives are built upon God's firm foundation, we can stand firm no matter our circumstances and no matter what others do around us.

INTRO to **2 Peter 1:5-11:** In Christ, God has given “us everything we need,” including the specific things Peter mentions in our text today—all aspects of Godly, Christlike character; and both our salvation and our calling.

• **Godly Character is an essential for those who put their faith in Jesus Christ. (vs. 5-9)**

-Faith is both our foundation and our function. It is what we believe, but also what we put into practice for God's purposes.

-**Question:** Is the measure of these qualities of godly character – goodness, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, mutual affection, and love – growing in your life?

-As these qualities increase in our lives, they will keep us from: *being ineffective and being unproductive in (our) knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

-If these qualities are decreasing or stagnant in our lives, we will end up being nearsighted (not able to see clearly the way forward) or outright blind. Many of the Pharisees during Jesus' day were an example of this – they had lots of knowledge and seemed to be pious but their character was lacking and thus they were leading as blind guides (see **Matthew 15:14** below).

• **True disciples are defined by both salvation and a calling that will endure to the end. (vs. 10-11)**

-For the second time in our text today, Peter has said instructed believes to *“make every effort.”* The first was to make every effort to pursue and display godly character; here it is to make every effort to live out Christ’s salvation and Christ’s call in their their day-to-day lives.

-your *election*: God’s sovereign choice—even before we were born; even before time began—to make us like Christ through salvation.

-your *calling*: God’s commissioning/sending us to commit all of our heart and life to His Kingdom purposes through Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit.

-Both of these things are essentials for the true Christian life. God’s election and calling our incredible mysteries, and we live our Christian lives always within them—faith and obedience.

-*For if you do these things, you will never stumble* – literally you will never be pulled backwards. Your faith will be genuine and your life faithful (see **Matt 7:21-23** below).

-And your future will be bright and glorious – *and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!*

**Other Scriptures Referenced:**

**2 Peter 1:3-4:** *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.<sup>4</sup> 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.*

**Matthew 15:14** (regarding the Pharisees): *“Leave them; they are blind guides. If the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit.”*

**Matthew 7:21-23:** *“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.<sup>22</sup> Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’<sup>23</sup> Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’”*

**Other Quotes/Resources:**

-“All of us think we are wiser than we are. All of us think we are stronger than we actually are. All of us think that we are more righteous than we actually are... weakness does not keep you from your Lord; your delusions of strength do!” –Paul David Tripp