

*For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. 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. But if anyone does not have them, he is nearsighted and blind, and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his past sins. 2 Peter 1:5-9 (NIV)*

## **Effective And Productive**

That is what I want to be. **What do you want to be?** I want to be effective and productive in your service. I want to bear fruit for your kingdom. I want to bring glory to your name. I want to be a bright and shining light for you in the darkness of this world. I want people to be drawn to you because they see your light and life in me. **Those are very good and right and pure desires in you.**

**How will you be effective and productive for me in the world?** Not by my efforts alone, that is for sure. My efforts alone will end in miserable failure, there is no doubt about that. **I'm glad that you know that you cannot make yourself godly by your own efforts. What will you rely on? What will be your source of help?** I will rely on you. I will rely on your divine power. I will rely on your powerful promises. Your power and your promises working in me will develop godly character in me that you desire for me. **Yes, that is true.** Will I be able to sit back and simply allow your power and promises to work in and through me? Will I have no role in the development of godly character in me? No, I must also make every effort and participate fully in the development of godly character in me. **How so?** I must know your promises. I must grab hold of your promises. I must allow your promises to dwell in me richly. I must allow your promises to change my heart, transform my mind and guide my life. Your promises will help me to stand against temptation and resist evil. The Holy Spirit will use your promises like a sword to fight in me, with me, for me and through me. As I rely on you and your powerful promises, godly character will grow in me, I will escape corruption in the world, and I will be effective and productive in serving you. **Yes, you will and that will be very good.** Thank you, Lord.

*Lord, I rely on your power and promises to help me to escape the corruption in the world. I will rely on your power and promises to live the life you want me to live. I will make every effort to grow in godly character so I can be effective and productive for you. Amen*

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Possess These Qualities*

For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. 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. But if anyone does not have them, he is nearsighted and blind, and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his past sins.

NIV 2 Peter 1:5-9

## **Becoming Like Christ** *The More You Grow Like This*

In view of all this, make every effort to respond to God's promises. Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence, and moral excellence with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with patient endurance, and patient endurance with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love for everyone. The more you grow like this, the more productive and useful you will be in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But those who fail to develop in this way are shortsighted or blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their old sins.

NLT 2 Peter 1:5-9

## **Becoming Like Christ** *These Things Are Yours*

For this very reason, you must make every effort to support your faith with goodness, and goodness with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with endurance, and endurance with godliness, and godliness with mutual affection, and mutual affection with love. For if these things are yours and are increasing among you, they keep you from being ineffective and unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For anyone who lacks these things is nearsighted and blind, and is forgetful of the cleansing of past sins.

NRSV 2 Peter 1:5-9

## **Becoming Like Christ** *These Qualities Are Yours*

For this very reason, adding your diligence [to the divine promises], employ every effort in exercising your faith to develop virtue (excellence, resolution, Christian energy), and in [exercising] virtue [develop] knowledge (intelligence), and in [exercising] knowledge [develop] self-control, and in [exercising] self-control [develop] steadfastness (patience, endurance), and in [exercising] steadfastness [develop] godliness (piety), and in [exercising] godliness [develop] brotherly affection, and in [exercising] brotherly affection [develop] Christian love. For as these qualities are yours and increasingly abound in you, they will keep [you] from being idle or unfruitful unto the [full personal] knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One). For whoever lacks these qualities is blind, [spiritually] shortsighted, seeing only what is near to him, and has become oblivious [to the fact] that he was cleansed from his old sins.

AMP 2 Peter 1:5-9

## **Becoming Like Christ** *These Qualities Are Yours*

Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge, and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness, and in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For he who lacks these qualities is blind or short-sighted, having forgotten his purification from his former sins.

NASB 2 Peter 1:5-9

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Qualities Are Yours*

For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins.

ESV 2 Peter 1:5-9

## **Becoming Like Christ** *These Things Are Yours*

But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.

NKJV 2 Peter 1:5-9

## **Becoming Like Christ** *These Qualities Active*

So don't lose a minute in building on what you've been given, complementing your basic faith with good character, spiritual understanding, alert discipline, passionate patience, reverent wonder, warm friendliness, and generous love, each dimension fitting into and developing the others. With these qualities active and growing in your lives, no grass will grow under your feet, no day will pass without its reward as you mature in your experience of our Master Jesus. Without these qualities you can't see what's right before you, oblivious that your old sinful life has been wiped off the books.

MSG 2 Peter 1:5-9

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Go On In This Way*

But to obtain these gifts, you need more than faith; you must also work hard to be good, and even that is not enough. For then you must learn to know God better and discover what he wants you to do. Next, learn to put aside your own desires so that you will become patient and godly, gladly letting God have his way with you. This will make possible the next step, which is for you to enjoy other people and to like them, and finally you will grow to love them deeply. The more you go on in this way, the more you will grow strong spiritually and become fruitful and useful to our Lord Jesus Christ. But anyone who fails to go after these additions to faith is blind indeed, or at least very shortsighted and has forgotten that God delivered him from the old life of sin so that now he can live a strong, good life for the Lord.

TLB 2 Peter 1:5-9

## **Becoming Like Christ** *These Things Are In You*

Because you have these blessings, do your best to add these things to your lives: to your faith, add goodness; and to your goodness, add knowledge; and to your knowledge, add self-control; and to your self-control, add patience; and to your patience, add service for God; and to your service for God, add kindness for your brothers and sisters in Christ; and to this kindness, add love. If all these things are in you and are growing, they will help you to be useful and productive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But anyone who does not have these things cannot see clearly. He is blind and has forgotten that he was made clean from his past sins.

NCV 2 Peter 1:5-9

# Possess These Qualities

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Becoming Like Christ** – 2 Peter 1:5-9

**In Context:** Read 2 Peter 1

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God's Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. 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. But if anyone does not have them, he is nearsighted and blind, and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his past sins. 2 Peter 1:5-9 (NIV)

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

For this very reason, I make every effort to add to your faith | goodness; | and to goodness, knowledge; | and to knowledge, | self-control; | and to self-control, perseverance; | and to perseverance, godliness; | and to godliness, brotherly kindness; | and to brotherly kindness, love. | 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. | But if anyone | does not have them, | he is nearsighted and blind, | and has forgotten | that he | has been cleansed | from his | past sins. 2 Peter 1:5-9 (NIV)

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**Praying The Scripture:** ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I rely on your power and promises to help me to escape the corruption in the world. I will rely on your power and promises to live the life you want me to live. I will make every effort to grow in godly character so I can be effective and productive for you. Amen

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**What It Means:** ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

Why is it critically important for you to make every effort to grow in godly character?

**What amount of effort will you need to make if you hope to grow in godly character?**

Why will your efforts alone never be all that you need to grow in godly character?

**How has God's divine power been making you able to grow in godly character?**

How have the promises of God helped you to escape corruption in the world?

**How has the growth of godly character in you made you effective and productive in serving the Lord?**

How has godly character in you made you able to bear fruit for the kingdom of God and bring glory to His name?

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**Living It Out:** ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Rely on God's power and promises as you make every effort to grow in godly character.

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**Seeing It Happen:** ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord's power and promises will make you able to grow in godly character.

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**Get Ready To Share:** ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how the Lord's promises have helped you to grow in godly character.

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**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May you make every effort to grow in godly qualities so you will be effective and productive in serving the Lord.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Lord, I will make every effort to grow in godly qualities so I will be effective and productive in serving you.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Lord, how can I make every effort to grow in godly qualities so I can be effective and productive in serving you?*

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