

Christian Growth

Introduction: "This passage should be of immense interest to every Christian because it tells how we can keep from falling in this life and how we can be assured of a triumphal entry into the next" (MacDonald).

- I. God has _____ all that is needed for your spiritual growth (2 Pe. 1:3-4).
 - A. It is only through the _____ of God that we can live a life of godliness.
 - B. A Christian has no _____ for not living a holy life.
 - C. "Just as His power _____ us in the first place, so His power energizes us to live holy lives from then on" (MacDonald).
 - D. You do not need anything more than God's power and God's _____.
 - E. God's will for every Christian is a life of _____.
 - F. The _____ of God's Word is inestimable.
 - G. It is through internalizing the Word of God that we _____ in the new nature God has given us (Eph. 4:22-24).
 - H. It is only as we bathe ourselves in the Word that we escape the _____ of the world (Ps. 119:9; Eph. 5:25-27).
- II. You must _____ Christian character for your spiritual growth (2 Pe. 1:5-9).
 - A. "God does not make us holy against our _____ or without our involvement. There must be desire, determination, and discipline on our part" (MacDonald).
 - B. The journey _____ with faith (Heb. 11:6; Eph. 2:8-9; Ro. 5:1).
 - C. Virtue is _____ and moral excellence.
 - D. Knowing Christ _____ needs to be our goal.
 - E. Temperance is _____: "There must be discipline in prayer, discipline in Bible study, discipline in the use of time, discipline in curbing bodily appetites, discipline in sacrificial living" (ibid.). (1 Cor. 9:26-27).
 - F. Patience is _____, especially in times of trials (Jas. 1:4; Ro. 5:3-4). "There is the daily routine, the menial task, the disappointing circumstance, the bitter grief, the shattered plan" (ibid.).
 - G. Godliness is simply being like _____ (Eph. 5:1).
 - H. We also need to have _____ for believers and unbelievers (Jn. 13:35).
 - I. The Christian life is to be one of _____ and bearing fruit (Jn. 15).
 - J. Being _____ and short-sighted cause unfruitfulness (1 Cor. 3:1; Heb. 5:12-13).
 - K. "The truth of his _____ has lost its grip on him" (ibid.).
- III. God and you will be _____ in eternity for your spiritual growth (2 Pe. 1:10-11).
 - A. There is no greater _____ of salvation than living a fruitful life of godliness for the Lord.
 - B. God will honor those who _____ Him with their life (Jn. 12:26).

Conclusion: "If you are a child of God you are to grow. And Peter lists the different attributes which are to characterize our growth" (McGee).