

2 Peter 1:8 - *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.*

- Useful and fruitful!

If you do these things – you will never fall.
(2 Peter 1:10)

Ingredients for Success

January 11, 2009, Kathy Hibbert
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Last year was heralded as a year of New Beginnings – but now this year seems to be full of doom and gloom! How do we keep on course when so much seems to be coming up to toss us to and fro?

Worrying might help us feel that we are doing something about things, but isn't it far better if we can apply ourselves to efforts that will bring success?

Between every great beginning and every victorious finish there is a big, long, tough, sometimes monotonous, costly, time consuming, middle. How do we make these times full of righteousness, peace and JOY? Especially since we are Kingdom People! (Romans 14:17)

Peter the Pastor

Snuggled at the back of your New Testament we find several short letters. Two by Peter, written to Churches that were having challenges and troubles too.

Peter speaks with a shepherds or pastors heart, wisdom and purpose to aid and equip the faithful so that they (WE) would never fall.

2 Peter Chapter 1 :5-8 NIV

☐ Now for this very reason also,

- What reason? Because we have been given everything we need for life and godliness

☐ applying all diligence,

- make every effort

☐ in your faith supply(add)

- YOUR faith, wherever it is at, whatever level
- Add on (blend together) to make a whole, like ingredients in a recipe

☐ moral excellence, (Goodness, Integrity) and in your moral excellence,

- goodness is God's character, so goodness is a place of communion with God.
- A true image to present to others
- 2 Cor. 3:18 – with unveiled faces
- Adding moral excellence to a life allows God's glory to be reflected

☐ knowledge; and in your knowledge,

- Knowledge of God's word, and God Himself
- Hosea – my people are destroyed by lack of knowledge
- Head knowledge, experiential knowledge, life skills, revelation from God
- It requires communion with God
- Be a life-long student

☐ self-control, and in your self-control,

- Master your desires and passions
- It is only possible if you are totally submitted to God
- “Just die ... to self”
- Willful submission to God looks like self-control on the outside

☐ perseverance, (patience) and in your perseverance,

- steadfast, patient endurance, consistency, now swerved

☐ godliness; and in your godliness,

- piety toward God
- a deep reverential, religious fear
- godliness on the outside is created by worshipping Him with love and adoration in your heart

☐ brotherly kindness, (philadelphia) and in your brotherly kindness,

- enjoying other Christians
- Christian affection
- You like being with people
- Romans 12:10 – be devoted to one another

☐ love. (agape)

- costly love, forgiving love, godly love
- It depends on the grace of God, not on our feelings
- Avail yourself of God's love when you are betrayed
- Colossians 3:13-14