

FAIRVIEW MEMORIAL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
WINTER BIBLE STUDY  
FEBRUARY 28<sup>TH</sup> 2017  
ELDER JERRY MILLER  
LESSON TITLE: ADDING TO YOUR FAITH

LESSON TEXT: 2nd PETER 1:1-11

Introduction: When the Apostle Peter wrote this epistle, he said it was to those that have; obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ. The instructions given in this epistle, that I wish to speak about in this lesson, are not instructions given to the lost, but rather to believers, to children of God.

The Apostle Peter wrote, giving all diligence; add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brother kindness charity.

Genesis 2:7 tells us what God did when He created Adam. And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

Now, I believe that when God created Adam, he made a full grown man, not a baby who would later become a grown man.

When we get saved, the Bible tells us that is also a creation. Ephesians 2:10 tells us that when we are saved by grace, we are, Created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

However, when this happens, we are not fully grown. We are born as babes in Christ. And as such, we have need of these instructions:

1st Peter 2: 1-3: Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,

As new born babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

Now, we should not think of these instructions as something we accomplish at once and then were set, but rather, that which we continue to do all of our days here, Sanctification is a lifelong process.

Titus 3:8- This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These

things are good and profitable unto men.

In Galatians 5:22-23 Paul wrote: But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Consider the seriousness of these instructions: 2nd Peter 1: 8&9:  
For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

Virtue- Moral Excellence  
Temperance- Self Control  
Patience- Endurance  
Godliness- Holines

2nd Peter 1: 2-4: Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

When God saved us, escaping hell and going to heaven when we die was never all salvation was about. It was not only to affect us in the world to come, but while we still live in this world as well.

Paul taught in Romans 6, that when we submitted to believer's baptism, it was an outward symbol of our inward change, and gave testimony that we would henceforth walk in newness of life. In Romans 6:11-13 he wrote:

Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.

Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

2nd Corinthians 5:17 reads: Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

When the Apostle Peter wrote about adding to our faith, he said, if these things be in us and abound, we will not be barren or unfruitful. I want to share scripture with you that tells us God does not only want His children to obey and follow the instructions given to

us in His word; He wants us to abound in them. God wants us to be all we can be in Him!

1st Corinthians 3: 9, For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.

God would have us to not only do His work, but to abound in the work of the Lord. In 1st Corinthians 15, we have record of Paul's writing concerning the great promise of a future resurrection when we will be changed. We will lay aside this old body of sin and be given a new body. Now, Paul didn't say, a great change is coming so don't concern yourself with doing anything now, he said, Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

In Romans 5: 1&2, Paul wrote: Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Ephesians 2:8 says, For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God.

In John 14:27, Jesus said this to his disciples, Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

So being justified by faith, we have peace with God, and we have access to the grace wherein we stand. Now in 2nd Peter 1:2, Peter wrote to those who had obtained like precious faith and said; Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and Jesus our Lord.

The scriptures tell us that as God's children we are to love one another. In John 13: 34, Jesus said, A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another, as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. However, the scriptures also say that love is to increase.

1st Thessalonians 3:12- And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you.

1st Timothy 2:4 says this about God's will towards us: Who will have all men to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Colossians T. 7-10 says: As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ;

Who also declared unto us your love in the Spirit.

For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God.

Colossians 2: 6-7: As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:

Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

2nd Peter 3: 18: But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. To whom be glory both now and forever. Amen.

\*What an amazing blessing God bestows upon us when he saves us! What an amazing God we came to know. We should spend the rest of our days learning more and more about Him, about, His word, and His salvation!!

The good gifts the Lord gives us, he gives to us abundantly!

John 10:10- Jesus said: The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

1st Timothy 1: 12-14: And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;

Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.

And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 1: 7-8: In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence;

Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself.

Ephesians 3:20- Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us.