

ADDING UP TO BE USEFUL

2 Peter 1: 5-8

vs. 5 - All diligence = The christian life takes dedication and maximum effort.

- Phil. 2:12 - Paul said it this way, "So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling."

vs. 5 - Add moral excellence = This is living rightly in a sinful world. This needs to become a lifestyle not just a moment.

- Titus 2:7-8 - In all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine, dignified, sound in speech which is beyond reproach, so that the opponent will be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about us.

1 Cor. 10:31

vs.5 - Add knowledge = This means learning and applying God's word. This requires study if we are to be approved.

- 2 Tim. 2:15 - Study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

vs.6 - Add self-control = "Holding oneself in" In Peter's day, it was used of athletes. Being self disciplined is in mind.

- 2 Tim.-1:7- God has not given us a spirit of fear but of power , love and self-control.
- 1 Cor. 9:25- Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.

vs.6 - Add perseverance = My definition is self-control on steroids. This is endurance that says I will die before I give into sin. It is enduring with hope.

- Hebrews 6:19- We have this hope as an anchor for our soul firm and secure.

vs. 6 - Add godliness = Translated from the Greek word for “piety”, which means the quality of being reverent. . Peter describes godliness as a trait that Christians should possess.

- 1Tim.4:8- For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for ALL things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.

vs. 7 - Add brotherly kindness = This means to be devoted to other Christians. This brotherly love for one another is how the world recognizes who we are.

- John 13:35- By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.

vs. 7 - Add love = What love looks like;

- 1 Cor.13: 4-7- Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all thing, endures all things. Love never fails.
- Rom. 13:8- Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for the one who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law.
- Rom. 5:8 - But God demonstrated His own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

vs. 8 - Total of these 7 qualities = If we are adding these qualities to our life, we won't be useless or unfruitful for God.

- 2 Tim. 2:21- So if anyone purifies himself from anything dishonorable, he will be a special instrument, set apart, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.
- John 15:8- By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples.