

# THE LIFE OF RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD PT. 3

II Peter 1:5-11

# THE GOD OF RELATIONSHIP PT. 5

II PETER 1:3-4

## I. Gracious Glories of God's Calling v. 3

## THE GOD OF RELATIONSHIP PT. 5

II PETER 1:3-4

**“In other words, when Christ calls people to himself, they perceive the beauty and loveliness of his moral character. His character becomes exceedingly attractive to them, and they trust God for their salvation.”**

**Tom Schreiner**

# THE GOD OF RELATIONSHIP PT. 5

II PETER 1:3-4

- I. Gracious Glories of God's Calling v. 3
- II. Glories of God's Faithful Enablement v. 4

# THE LIFE OF RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD PT. 3

II PETER 1:5-11

## I. Lived Wholeheartedly v. 5a

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## II PETER 1:5-11

**What does this look like practically to live claiming God's promises and avoiding the corruption of the world? What connection do you see flowing from vv. 3-4 to attitude found in the first part of v. 5?**

- When we realize how much He has given us (living & caring God) we have reason to move
- Never enough, but He can/will
- No longer my provision/power comes from Him
- Holy God calls us to care about how we follow Him, with more precision
- Fellowship gazing with true knowledge, it shapes the barometer by which we meditate on life – takes us from surviving to living
- Seeing these promises clearly will eclipse corrupted desires so our attitude and focus changes allowing us to live pleasing to Him
- 1 Peter 2:1-3 growth through His Word is only response to tasting the kindness of the Lord
- Worship is the way out of sin

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### II PETER 1:5-11

**What would keep us from living with the focus and earnestness presented here in vv. 3-5a? Why would we “start with an initial spasm” and end with “chronic inertia?”**

- Not always that our affection wanes, but that we grow so entrusted with more and must put more into relationship
- Misunderstanding of normal Christian growth
- Not seeing need or seeing and not desiring
- More of emotional love, later more stable (deeper, well-rounded)
- Like children, impatient and give up quickly
- Col. 3:1-3, Gal. 2:20 – crucified with Christ is different than before – all based on tying self to God and His Words
- Change apart from the person and provision of God (Holy Spirit, prayer, etc.)
- Getting too comfortable or lazy

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## II PETER 1:5-11

- I. Lived Wholeheartedly v. 5a**
- II. Lived Specifically at Character Level vv. 5b-7**



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II PETER 1:5-11

**But are you willing to recognize, you foolish fellow, that faith without works is useless?**

**James 2:20**

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## II PETER 1:5-11

**How would you characterize these seven characteristics? What would be important/necessary if you focused here? What accompanies these character qualities?**

- Not born with, don't "fall" into
- Require pre-requisites
- Process
- Love is climax
- All are a part/required
- V. 3,8 – all tied to true knowledge of Lord Jesus Christ
- Seem to be in relationship with other people
- Very high standard
- Bring Christ into life situations
- Hard, absolute
- Boundaries

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## II PETER 1:5-11

**How would you characterize these seven characteristics? What would be important/necessary if you focused here? What accompanies these character qualities? (CONT.)**

- Some very similar
- Easy to determine own definition and say it's enough
- Always more, never there
- Actions
- Intertwined
- These things valued in God's kingdom
- Maintained, constant focus, valuable
- So much greater than examples we see in the world
- Gives us something to focus on/something tangible

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**Can you think of some other virtues needed to grow in moral excellence?**

- Honesty/trustworthy
- Patience
- Integrity
- Wisdom
- Standard – outside of you
- Humility

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II PETER 1:5-11

**“Knowledge, including knowledge of Scripture, that is not turned into practical action, that does not produce the character of God/Jesus in one’s life, is worse than useless, for it can blind one to his or her true sorry state.”**

**Peter Davids**

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### II PETER 1:5-11

**By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. 4 The one who says, “I have come to know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him;**

**1 John 2:3-4**

**We know that no one who is born of God sins; but He who was born of God keeps him, and the evil one does not touch him.**

**I John 5:18**

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### II PETER 1:5-11

**“This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. 13 “Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. 14 “You are My friends if you do what I command you. 15 “No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you. 16 “You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you. 17 “This I command you, that you love one another.**

**John 15:12-17**

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**“The unrestrained man does things that he knows to be evil, under the influence of passion, whereas the self-restrained man, knowing that his desires are evil, refuses to follow them on principle.”**

**“The self-restrained man is the man who abides by the results of his calculations, the unrestrained one who readily abandons the conclusion he has reached.”**

**Aristotle**



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**What happens to these focuses in our daily lives? Where do they fit throughout our day, even in our desire to live and please God?**

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### II PETER 1:5-11

“It may, however, be here asked, whether Peter, by assigning to us the work of supplying or adding virtue, thus far extolled the strength and power of free-will? **They who seek to establish free-will in man, indeed concede to God the first place, that is, that he begins to act or work in us; but they imagine that we at the same time co-operate, and that it is thus owing to us that the movements of God are not rendered void and inefficacious.** But the perpetual doctrine of Scripture is opposed to this delirious notion: for it plainly testifies, that right feelings are formed in us by God, and are rendered by him effectual. It testifies also that all our progress and perseverance are from God. Besides, it expressly declares that wisdom, love, patience, are the gifts of God and the Spirit.

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**John Calvin**

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**How would we focus our energies on these character traits in a way that would evidence the work of God—a result of faith, meaning effort IN God's presence? What might that include OR what would be signs that our growth is NOT a result of God's power or inside living relationship with God?**

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**If anyone is destined for captivity, to captivity he goes; if anyone kills with the sword, with the sword he must be killed. Here is the perseverance and the faith of the saints.**

**Revelation 13:10**

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**“But you will be betrayed even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death, 17 and you will be hated by all because of My name. 18 “Yet not a hair of your head will perish. 19 “By your endurance you will gain your lives.**

**Luke 21:16-19**

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**“But the seed in the good soil, these are the ones who have heard the word in an honest and good heart, and hold it fast, and bear fruit with perseverance.**

**Luke 8:15**

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**“But the seed in the good soil, these are the ones who have heard the word in an honest and good heart, and hold it fast, and bear fruit with perseverance.**

**Luke 8:15**

**Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.**

**Hebrews 12:1-3**



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**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; **13** for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.**

**Philippians 2:12-13**