1. Introduction:
   1. Read II Peter 1:5-10
   2. Pray
   3. We need diligence in our sanctification
      1. To prevent spiritual failure, to stay away from false teachers, to be ready at the coming of Christ
   4. Spiritual Self reflection
      1. Psalm 119:59 “I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies”
         1. Is spiritual failure an option for you?
         2. Have you ever considered the different traps that will blindside you/your family to push you away from the LORD, his assembly, his word?
         3. That is Satan’s goal 🡪 to destroy each one of us, and deem us unusable for him.
            1. He attacks the marriage, the family, the individual, and the church.
            2. He uses false teachers and deceptions to turn you away as well
         4. We need to always self-assess that we are walking in line with scripture in doctrine and with the fruit of the Spirit (behaviors)
         5. Self-reflection is key in our spiritual walk
   5. Self-assessment quiz
2. Context:
   1. Audience:
      1. II Peter 3:1 🡪 this is Peter’s second epistle to this group; see I Peter for audience
      2. I Peter 1:1 scattered strangers in 5 local churches,
         1. 5 groups of assembled believers = churches (Modern day turkey)
         2. Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, Bithynia
      3. Jewish Christians:
         1. Recently converted – trouble with how much Judaism they could retain
         2. Persecuted for practicing Christianity instead of Judaism (I Peter)
         3. Now, false teachers are attempting to deceive them with heresy, fables, and
   2. Purpose of the book: Peter is ultimately preparing and warning the church members regarding false teachers that are teaching Gnosticism…
      1. His epistle is rich in doctrine and knowledge of our Lord, which is necessary to withstand false teaching…we need to know our bibles!
      2. Encouragement and warnings concerning spiritual growth – chapter 1
         1. We need to be diligent in our sanctification to prevent spiritual failure – 2 Peter 1:9
         2. We need to have a holy conversation – used 9 x in his epistles
         3. Our conduct and way of life needs to reflect the divine nature
      3. Warns of False teachers coming into the local church
         1. Could that actually happen?!?
         2. 2 Peter 2:12 🡪 many will follow them
         3. 2 Peter 2:18 🡪 they allure the flesh of man
         4. 2 Peter 3:4 🡪 scoffed the 2nd coming of Christ
      4. Instructs on Last days
         1. The Lord is willing that all will repent – 2 Peter 3:9-11
         2. 2 Peter 3:14 🡪 be diligent to found of him without spot
      5. The essence of this book:
         1. Be diligent in your sanctification to grow in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ:
            1. To prevent you from following and falling to false teaching 🡪 leads to spiritual ruin
            2. To be found by the LORD at the rapture “Without spot”
3. Interpretation:
   1. Look at sheet🡪 covered the context
   2. Knowledge of Jesus Christ our Savior
      1. See sheet\*\*
   3. Diligence
      1. See sheet\*\*
   4. False teachers
      1. See sheet
   5. Giving all diligence:
      1. **Diligence** – haste, zeal, excited fervor to do something
         1. steady, earnest, and energetic effort :  persevering application in our lives
         2. Uses this word 3x (II Pt 1:10, II Pt 3:14)
         3. We need to become diligent in every aspect of our life
         4. get our lives disciplined with diligence so we can grow spiritually!
            1. Without diligence in our lives we will not grow in grace with consistent purpose, but inconsistently.
         5. 2 Timothy 2:15 “study to shew thyself approved unto God”
            1. same word for diligence… we need to put time into our spiritual growth
      2. **Faith** is the beginning of our Christian life
         1. Romans 1:17 “*For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, the just shall live by faith*”
         2. Romans 5:1 “*Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ*”
         3. II Peter 1:1 🡪 like precious faith
            1. Our faith is precious because it is a saving faith

[Ephesians 2:8](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Ephesians-2-8/) - For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: [it is] the gift of God:

* + - * 1. our faith is precious because Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith

[Hebrews 12:2](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Hebrews-12-2/) - Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of [our] faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

* + - * 1. Our faith is precious because we were purged from our old sins by the precious blood of Chirst – I Pt 1:19
        2. Our faith is precious because we have escaped the corruption that is in the world. Vs 4
        3. How precious is your faith to you?
        4. Do you realize how precious your faith is?
    1. **Virtue** 🡪 more excellence
       1. Righteousness, holiness, a life seeking purity in all things?
       2. Right off the bat, that is a high standard
    2. **Knowledge** 🡪 truth and doctrine of God and Jesus
       1. Scripture needs to define who the Lord Jesus Christ is; not us
       2. The knowledge of Christ from scripture shapes our doctrine and behaviour
       3. The simple knowledge that God is Holy, Holy, Holy sitting on his throne and able to see every action you make should drive a change in your Christian life.
    3. **Temperance** 🡪 self-control over our body, thoughts, eyes, actions, and lust
       1. The false teachers did not have self-control
       2. Do you put on your spiritual armor to fight back?
    4. **Patience** 🡪 to remain under, to abide in, to endure
       1. See passages on sheet
    5. **Godliness** 🡪 practical righteous living, holiness, Christ-likeness
    6. **Brotherly kindness** 
       1. see passages on the sheet
       2. Philadelphia love 🡪 kindness and general love for the brethren
    7. **Charity**
       1. Agape love 🡪 love like Christ; sacrificial love
  1. Discuss diligence
     1. See sheet\*\*
     2. Why do we need diligence?
        1. Our society is worsening in laziness, to get to work on time is a growing struggle for employers
           1. Diligence has to be taught, and it is not.
           2. Dependence on technology is crippling diligence and discipline
        2. ***Peter instructs that diligence is required to add to our faith and systematically grow in the grace of the Lord and the divine nature***
           1. Otherwise, you will remain a babe in Christ until you become blind spiritually because of lack of growth (vs.9)
           2. Vs 5-8 indicate the systematic growth as a believer

Faith in Christ is the foundation all the way to brotherly kindness and charity, which are hard and advanced

Diligence is required to add to our faith.

* + - 1. If not, you probably are not diligent spiritually either.
    1. Once we have diligence, we use all diligence to add to our faith.
       1. The first thing we add is virtue or moral excellence, which the Lord has called us to.
       2. Are you living a righteous life?
          1. Are the words of your mouth and the meditations of your heart acceptable in the sight of God?
  1. Weekly schedule:
     1. Romans 13:11-12 “***And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast of the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light***”
     2. James 4:14 “***Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth awa****y*”
     3. Review metrics in a week of time
        1. Fill out current schedule of all activities
           1. What should you cut out from a biblical perspective?
           2. What can you cut out to make more time for church, study in the Word, prayer, and other biblical activities?
     4. Time is precious and valuable.
        1. How many hours a week are you doing the things of the LORD?
     5. Use this tool to be diligent with your time, where you have scheduled time on a consistent basis to study, pray, or witness
        1. Removing obstacles (not necessarily bad) that consistently obstruct your time in the Word or prayer
        2. Restructuring your schedule to fit around your study in the Word.
        3. Setting reminders in your day to reflect on truths from Sundays teachings or your devotions
        4. Getting up early or staying up later to study the word
        5. Asking the Lord to help you apply scripture so you can grow in that area.
        6. Make a spiritual checklist for each day
           1. Time of praise
           2. Time of prayer
           3. Time of study
           4. Time of application in that day