



Adding to Your Faith (2 Peter 1)

by Nancy Leigh DeMoss

"Make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love."
(2 Peter 1:5-7)

Faith

- Do you have genuine faith in Christ?
- Who or what are you trusting for your eternal salvation?
- What evidences are there that you have true faith: that you have believed and placed your faith in Christ? (Faith without works is dead.)

Virtue

- Is your life characterized by moral excellence?
- Do you choose to think, read, be entertained by, and look on things that are virtuous and excellent?
- Is your character (speech, actions, and choices) morally excellent?
- Do you have a heart and appetite for things that are excellent, good, and pure?
- Do you have an energetic, vigorous faith? Is it active, alive, and growing?
- Are you fulfilling your intended, created purpose? What does your life reflect to others about the nature and character of God?

Knowledge

- Are you growing in your knowledge of God's Word and His ways?
- Are you growing in your knowledge of God, in an intimate relationship with Him?
- What are you doing to nurture your relationship with Him and to get to know Him better?
- Are you spending consistent time seeking to know Him through the study of His Word and prayer?
- What things are you most motivated and interested to learn about?
- Are you able to take the Word and apply it to your life circumstances and to use it to minister to the needs of others?

Self-control

- Do you have any recurring or besetting sinful habits or areas of bondage in your life?
- Are you enslaved or addicted to anything?
- Do you exercise self-control
 - with your tongue and words
 - in your moods and emotions
 - with your body: food and drink
 - with your time: entertainment, hobbies, and habits
 - in your spending
 - sexually
 - with the computer and the Internet
- Is there any area where you frequently and habitually give in to sinful or fleshly desires, drives, or passions?

Steadfastness (Perseverance)

- Does your faith hold up? Do you endure under pressure and testing?
- Do you keep trusting, loving, and obeying God even when His providence and choices are not what you would choose?
- When hard times come, do you throw in the towel and give in to discouragement, fear, or resentment?
- What trials or afflictions are you facing at this time? Are you enduring them steadfastly, or have you grown weary and fainthearted?
- Are you responding to these trials with joy?

Godliness

- Is your heart orientation and inclination toward godly things?
- Is your heart devoted to God?
- Is your life God-centered? Is what you think about, dwell on, and seek after God-centered?
- Is the essential orientation of your life God-ward and heavenward? Or is it self-centered and earthly (earthbound)? Is it temporal or eternal?
- Are you training to be godly? What are you doing?

Brotherly affection

- Do you genuinely care for the people of God? Are you fond of them?
- Do you enjoy their company? Are you cultivating rich friendships with other believers?
- Do you think of them as your brothers and sisters?
- Are you kind to and considerate of your fellow believers?
- Do you assume the best about other believers?
- Are you warmhearted toward them?
- Do you look for ways to encourage and bless them?

- Do you treat them with honor, respect, and goodwill?
- Do you speak charitably and well of other believers?
- Are you quick to serve and minister to their needs whenever possible?
- Are you hospitable? Do you welcome God's people into your home?
- Do you receive others as Christ has received you?

Love (1 Corinthians 13)

- Is your life characterized by selfless, sacrificial, serving love?
- Do you seek the Kingdom of God and the interests of others above your own?
- Do you love God (evidenced by obeying His commands)?
- Do you love your family?
- Do you love the lost?