

Growing In Character
#SermonCharacter
Dr. Mark Jackson, September 10, 2017
2 Peter 1:5-7

Ephesians 4:22-24 Take on an entirely new way of life — a God-fashioned life, a life renewed from the inside and working itself into your conduct as God accurately reproduces **his character in you**. (MSG)

Three Commitments Needed For Growth

2 Peter 1:5a For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith... (NIV)

1. I MUST WANT TO GROW - “For this very reason...” (vs 5a)

1 Peter 2:2 Desire God's pure word as newborn babies desire milk. Then you will grow in your salvation. (GW)

2. I MUST WORK AT GROWING - “...make every effort...” (vs 5b)

Philippians 2:12b-13 ...continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling,¹³ for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose. (NIV)

3. I MUST PERSIST IN GROWING - “...add to your faith...” (vs 5c)

1 Peter 1:7a These troubles come to prove that your faith is pure. This purity of faith is worth more than gold... (ICB)

James 1:4 But you must learn to endure everything, so that you will be completely mature and not lacking in anything. (CEV)

The Character Needed For Growth

2 Peter 1:5b-7 ...add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; ⁶ and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; ⁷ and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. (NIV)

1. GROW MORALLY - “Goodness”

2 Peter 1:5 So don't lose a minute in building on what you've been given,

complementing your basic faith with **good character**... (MSG)

Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men that they may see your **moral excellence** and your... **good deeds** and recognize and honor and praise and glorify your Father Who is in heaven. (AMP)

2. **GROW MENTALLY** - “Knowledge”

John 13:17 If you **know these things**, you are **blessed if you do them**. (NASB)

3. **GROW EMOTIONALLY** - “Self-Control” & “Perseverance”

Proverbs 16:32 Better to be **patient** than powerful; better to have **self-control** than to conquer a city. (NLT)

4. **GROW SPIRITUALLY** - “Godliness”

Matthew 5:48 You, therefore, must be perfect **growing into complete maturity of godliness** in mind and character, having reached the proper height of virtue and integrity, **as your heavenly Father is perfect**. (AMP)

5. **GROW RELATIONALLY** - “Brotherly kindness” & “Love”

Colossians 3:14 Love is more important than anything else. It is what **ties everything completely together**. (CEV)

Philippians 1:11 May you always be filled with **the fruit of your salvation—the righteous character produced in your life by Jesus Christ**—for this will bring much glory and praise to God. (NLT)