

2nd Peter

Lesson 1: Participate in the Divine Nature

Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

2 Peter 1:4

2 Peter - Overview

- **Written about 3 years after 1st Peter (~67 AD)**
 - 1st Peter comfort believers amid persecution – an external onslaught
 - 2nd Peter warn believers of complacency and false teachers – an internal onslaught
- **Sub-topics**
 - The Growth, Diligence and Fruitfulness of believers *(1:1-10)*
 - The Prophecy of Scripture *(1:12-19)*
 - Dangers of False teachers and heresies *(Chapter 2)*
 - The surety of Christ's Return *(Chapter 3)*

Participating in the Divine Nature (1:1-10)

2 Peter 1:1-4

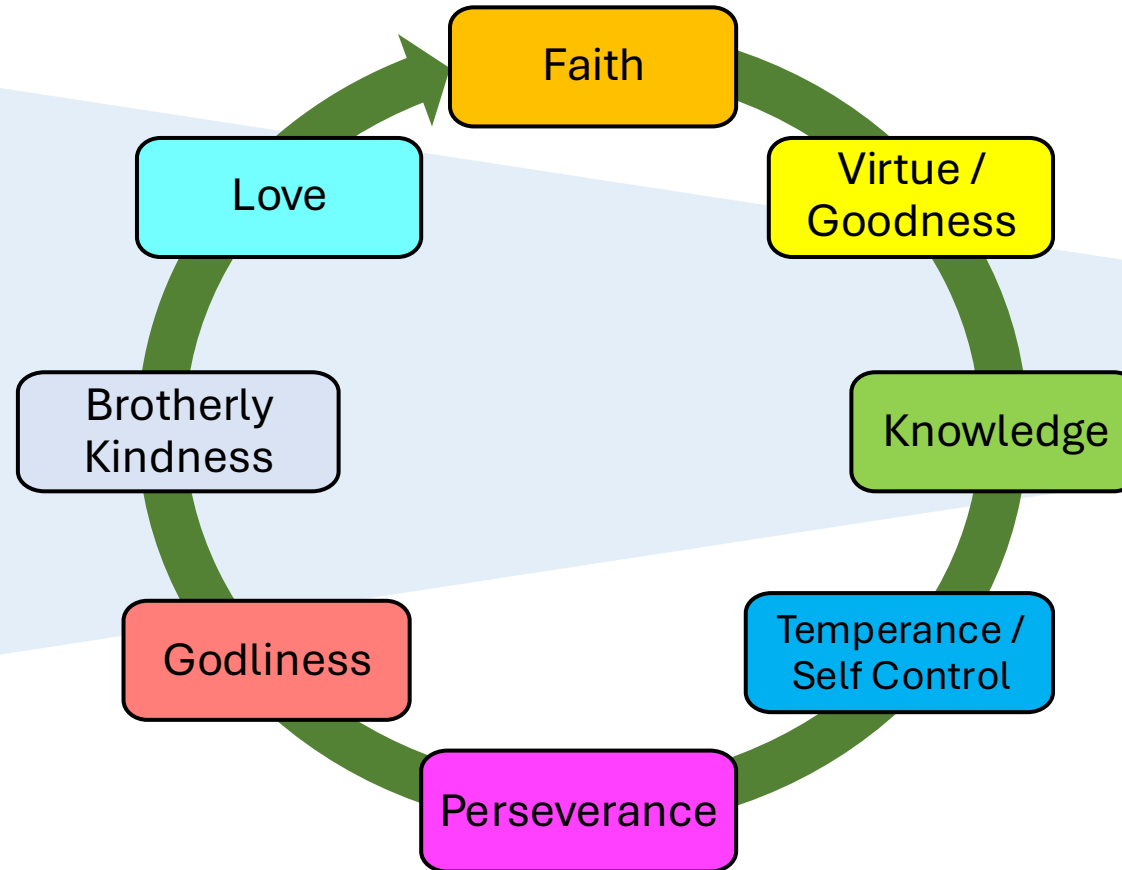
It starts with receiving Faith in Jesus Christ our Savior

Obtain Knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord

God's Divine Power provides everything we need to live godly

He promised that we can participate in the Divine Nature

2 Peter 1:5-7



2 Peter 1:8-10

Results:
Growing these qualities keep us from becoming Ineffective and Unproductive

The Divine Nature - Obtaining Faith (2 Peter 1:1)

- **It starts with receiving or obtaining Faith in Jesus Christ our Savior**
 - A faith received through the **Righteousness** of God
 - Righteousness: The state of being right with God; justification; the work of Christ, which is the ground justification.
 - Our belief in Jesus Christ is the only way we can be justified or in right standing before God
 - Genesis 15:6; Romans 1:17; 3:21-26; 4:3-13
 - A precious faith that is based on the same merits as the original apostles
 - What was the basis of the original Apostle's Faith? (2 Pet 1:16-19)
 - Why was it considered 'Precious'?

2nd Peter

Lesson 2: Obtaining Knowledge of God

Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and
of Jesus our Lord.

2 Peter 1:2

Participating in the Divine Nature (1:1-10)

2 Peter 1:1-4

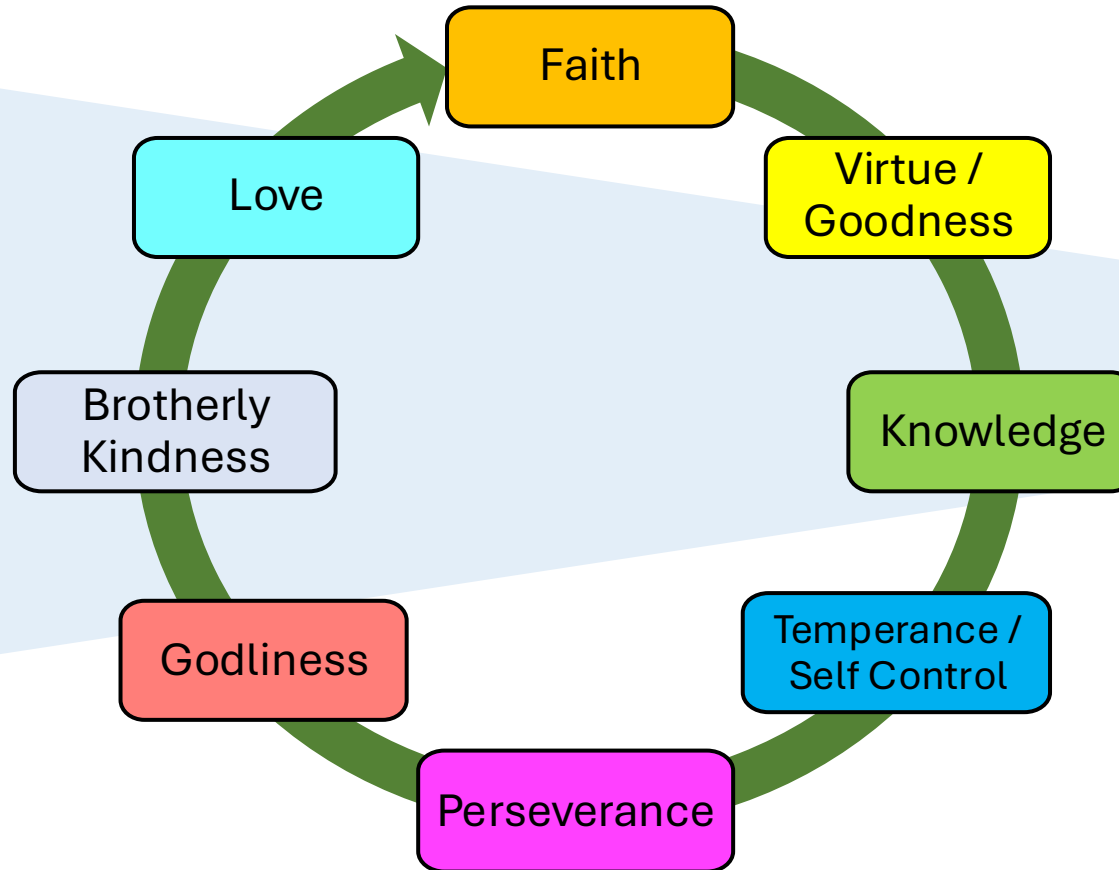
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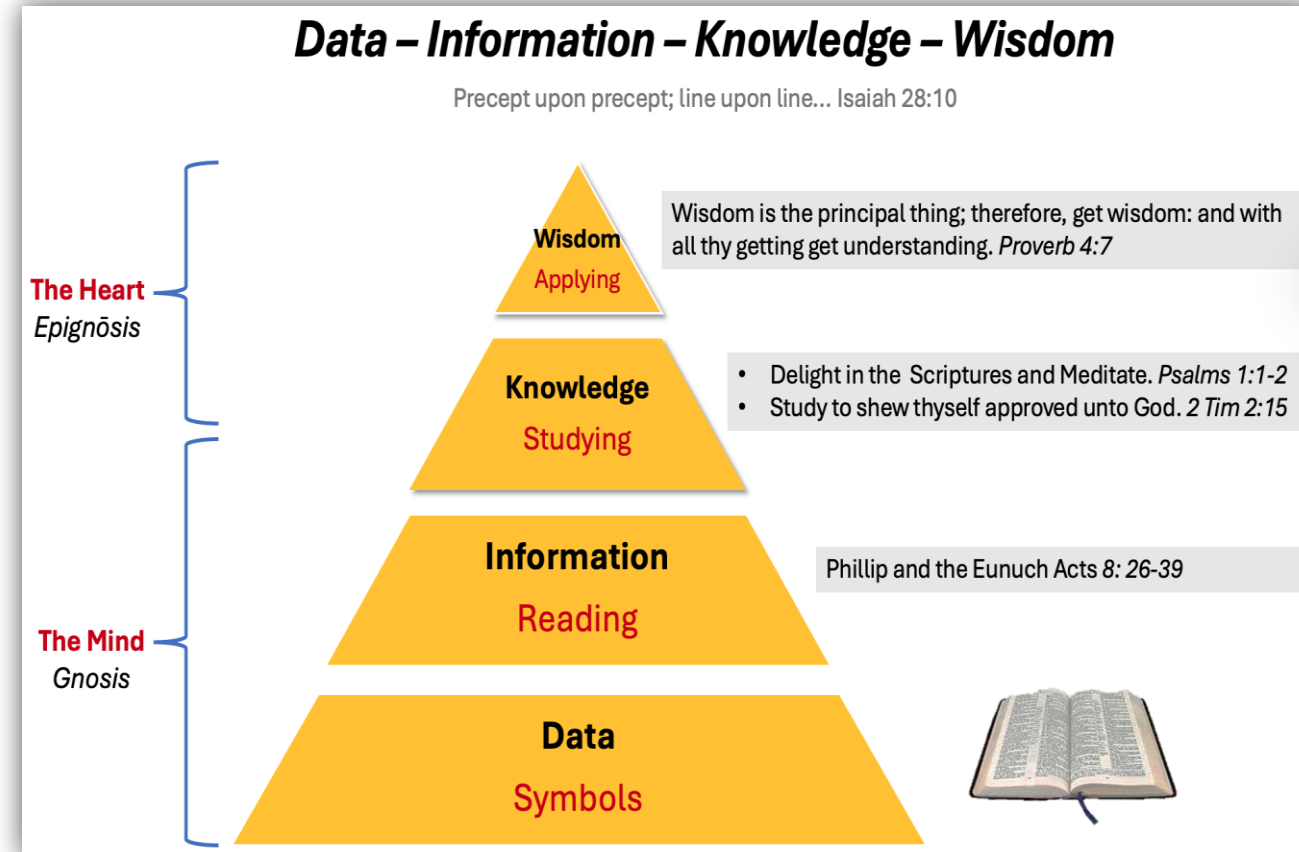
The Divine Nature – Obtain Knowledge of God (2 Peter 1:2)

- **Obtain Knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord**

- **Grace:** The very essence of Jesus Christ (*John 1:14-17*)
- **Peace:** True “Shalom” is a gift given by Jesus (*John 14:27; 16:33*)

- **How Knowledge multiply these Grace and Peace**

- Relationship-based knowledge (*epignōsis*) not just Education-based knowledge (*gnosis*) of God and of Jesus Christ (John 6:45)
 - Relationship-based knowledge brings humility and fear (*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge (Proverbs 1:7)*)
 - But He gives more grace. Therefore, He says: God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble (*James 4:6*)
 - The prodigal son was able to fully experience the grace and peace of the father once he “came to himself”
- The Grace and Peace of God are constant, the Revelation is progressive



The Divine Nature – Desires Management

James 1:12-15



- **Desires** - Rooted In The **Heart**
- **Motives** - Generated In The **Mind**
- **Actions** - Carried Out With The **Body Or Our Strength**
- These Three Determine The Condition Of Our **Soul**

Mark 12:30

*And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy **heart**, and with all thy **soul**, and with all thy **mind**, and with all thy **strength**: this is the first commandment.*

- [Psalms 37:4](#) - Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.
- [Psalms 27:4](#) - One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to enquire in his temple.
- [Proverbs 18:1](#) - Through desire a man, having separated himself, seeketh and intermeddleth with all wisdom.

Scripture References

- **John 1:14-17** - And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me. And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace. For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.
- **John 14:27** - Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.
- **John 16:33** - These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.
- **Matthew 11:29** - Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.
- **John 6:45** - It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.
- **Proverbs 1:7** - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.
- **James 4:6** - But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.
- **James 1:12-15** - Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

2nd Peter

Lesson 3: The Divine Power of God

According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue.

2 Peter 1:3

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Sunday School

2nd Peter_v1
(In - Progress)



Sunday School

1st Peter



Sunday School

The Book of Acts



Sunday School

Walking in the Spirit



Sunday School

Voids Management



Sunday School

Recognize Deceivers



Sunday School

Looking for the
Wrong Jesus



Sunday School

The Boundary of Hope



Sunday School

Being Fed and Given
Room to Grow (Bees)



Participating in the Divine Nature (1:1-10)

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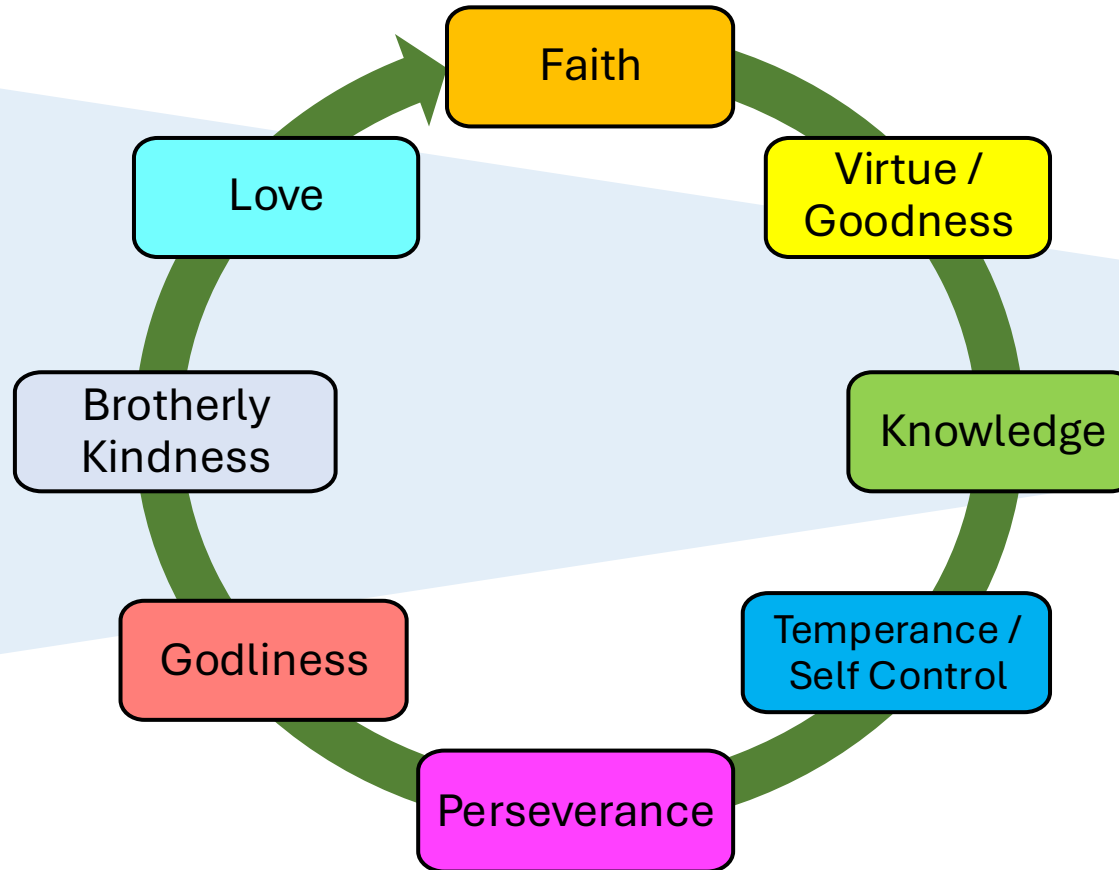
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The Divine Nature – God’s Divine Power (2 Peter 1:3)

- What is “God’s Divine Power”

- The Gospel of Jesus Christ

- Romans 1:16 - For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the **power** of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.
- 1 Corinthians 1:18 - For the preaching **of** the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the **power of God**.
- 1 Corinthians 1:24 - But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the **power of God**, and the wisdom **of God**.

- In Christ we have been given everything we need to to live godly

- Knowledge of Jesus calls us to Glory and Virtue
 - Glory - the magnificence, worth, and splendor of God (John 1:14)
 - Virtue – moral excellence, divine power, or spiritual strength

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Lesson 4: Precious Promises

Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust

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2 Peter 1:4

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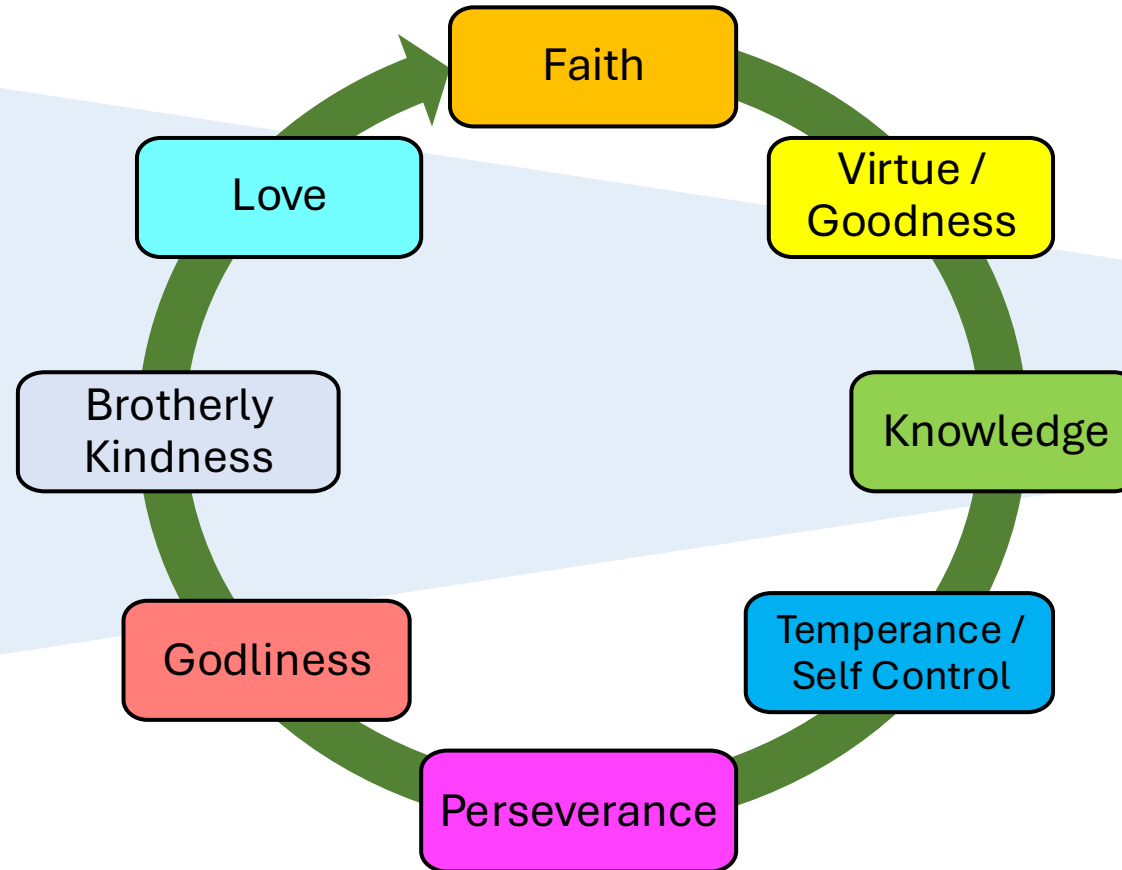
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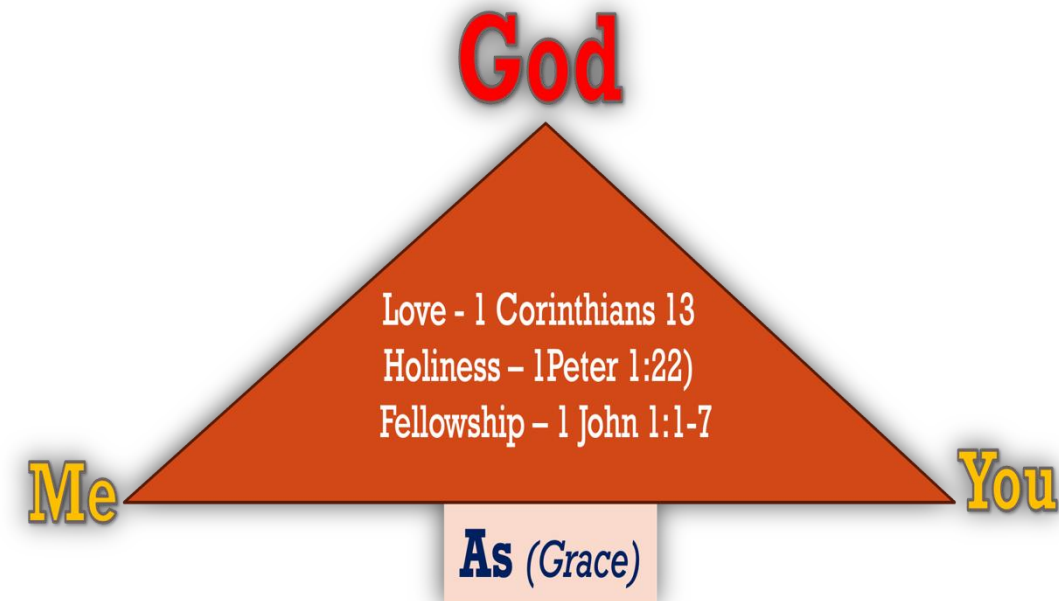
The Divine Nature – God’s Promises (2 Peter 1:5)

- **What are these exceeding great and precious Promises?**
 - Promise of blessing to Abraham (Gen 12:3)
 - Promise of a land and inheritance to the Jews (Gen 12:7)
 - The Birth, Crucifixion, Recurrection and Return of Jesus Christ (Isaiah 9:6))
 - The Promise of the Comforter (the Holy Spirit) (John 14:16)
- **What Great and Precious Promises have God given you Personally?**
- **How have we escaped corruption?**
 - Lust of the Eyes, Lust of the Flesh, Pride of Life (1John)
- **How do we obtain this ‘Divine Nature’**
 - Growing in the characteristics listed in 2 Peter 1:5-7 with all diligence
“Faith – Virtue – Knowledge – Temperance - Patience - Brotherly kindness – Charity”

The Divine Nature – Diligence (2 Peter 1:4)

- **For the believer, diligence means quickly obeying what the Lord reveals is His priority.**
 - Diligence elevates the better over the good
 - ... the more important over the important
 - ... and does so with earnest swiftness (intensity)
- **Diligence brings Love into the proper perspective**
 - Love God “**more than**” Me and Me “**as**” You
 - Diligence outpaces the negative stigmas we place on ourself (Exodus 4:10)
 - I can't / I am not / Not my calling / Not my gift /

Love God with all thy Heart, Soul, Mind and Strength
Love your Neighbor as Thyself
Duet 6:5 | Mark 12:29-31 | Matt 22:37



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Lesson 5: Divine Characteristics

And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;
And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;
And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

•
2 Peter 1:5-7

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE “DIVINE NATURE”

Faith - The substance of things hoped for and evidence of things not seen. It is paramount to have our hope grounded in the things of God. Faith is more than just an idle wish or an empty dream. Faith operates hand in hand with our works. **Faith = Belief + Obedience.** (*Hebrew 11:1, James 2:14-20*)

Virtue - The Greek definition for Virtue is “Moral excellence or perfection”. However, I like the Hebrew definition “strength, power, might (especially warlike), ability, efficiency, wealth, force, army”. Growing in diligence is a war in the mind and spirit. It is the preparation required for battle! (*Philippians 4:8*)

Knowledge - Proverbs 12:1 says that “*whoso loves instruction loves knowledge: but he that hates reproof is brutish.*” This leads to the question, are we teachable, can we follow instructions? Or are we filled with proud. (*Proverbs 18:15; 12:1, Psalms 119:66*)

Temperance - The ability to possess and exhibit self-control or self-restraint. We NEED the Holy Spirit to accomplish this in our lives. Even though we were created with emotions, it does not give us a free pass to live emotional. Replace emotional statements like “*this sucks, I hate doing, I don’t like*” with spirit-filled ones like “*I AM, I Can, I Will*”. (*Galatians 5:22-25, 1 Corinthians 15:58*)

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE “DIVINE NATURE”

Patience - Jesus explained the parable of the sower to his disciples in Luke chapter 8, he makes a profound statement in verse 15. “But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, **and bring forth fruit with patience.**” (*James 1:2-8, Luke 8:10-15*)

Godliness – Having a Mind to do God’s will. In the letter that the Apostle Paul writes to Timothy, he gives ample instructions on “godliness”. This word is repeated nine times in this short epistle, four times in the chapter 6 alone! (*1 Timothy 3:13; 4:8; 6:1-11*)

Brotherly Kindness - Brotherly kindness is an attribute that is found throughout the Bible. David showed kindness to Saul and Jonathan’s son, Boaz to Ruth and Naomi, the people on the island of Melita to Paul and the list goes on... It is a condition of the heart. (*Col 3:11-12, 2 Corinth 6:1-10*)

Love - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (*John 3:16*)

Growing these qualities keep us from becoming **Ineffective** and **Unproductive**

(*2 Peter 1:8-9*)