

SUFFER WELL

A FIELD GUIDE FROM
1ST & 2ND PETER

WEEKLY STUDY GUIDE

Week 12: Prove Your Faith

SERIES OVERVIEW

Suffering is a natural consequence of surrender. As we surrender in greater ways to the Lordship of Jesus, we should expect persecution and difficulty especially as we find ourselves living in a negative world. 1st Peter encourages believers to persevere faithfully in light of their present hope and future salvation.

2 PETER OVERVIEW

For a summary, timeline, background, message and purpose of 2nd Peter, go to your [Suffer Well Field Guide page 47](#).

- [Watch Overview](#) (Watch as a group)

CONTEXT

In 2 Peter 1:5-11, Peter urges believers to diligently cultivate virtues such as faith, knowledge, self-control, and love, which will ensure they are effective and fruitful in their knowledge of Jesus Christ. He emphasizes that by practicing these qualities, believers will confirm their calling and be granted entrance into the eternal kingdom.

THE BIG IDEA

We are saved by faith alone, but saving faith is never alone. Good works serve as the proof of faith, which is required to enter the Kingdom of God.

SCRIPTURE: 2 Peter 1:5-11

5 For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, 6 and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, 7 and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. 8 For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. 10 Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. 11 For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

ICEBREAKER

Have a “Family Meeting” to discuss summer plans for your group. Group leaders, refer to your Married Group leader email sent on May 1 for tips and guidelines for a healthy conversation about summer.

[Here's a link to the Summer email!](#)

STARTER QUESTION

Refer to your notes in your Suffer Well Field Guide (pg. 53), what is one thing that stood out to you from the sermon and why do you think God wants you to remember this truth?

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GROUP DISCUSSION

Read 2 Peter 1:5-11.

In verses 5-7, Peter tells us to “supplement your faith with”...

Virtue- moral excellence = Christlikeness

Knowledge-knowledge of God’s Will/Word

Self-control- working to control your passions instead of being controlled by them. (Only possible by the power of Holy Spirit)

Steadfastness- Putting in work to persevere, endure when life is hard

Godliness-Total devotion & commitment to God.

Brotherly affection- He’s calling us to love each other like family.

Love- Agape: sacrificial love seeks good of others w/out expecting anything in return.

Notice how each quality leads to the next. Discuss any observations about the order of the qualities. Share the top 2 qualities you need to work on to grow in Christlikeness.

All to Him. How do your commitments to your ATH Journey grow you in Godliness?

What are the consequences of lacking these qualities, according to 2 Peter 1:8-9? Using your sermon notes and what you’ve learned, how do you put verse 8-9 in your own words?

What is the difference between working to earn God's approval and working in response to God's grace? If you're being honest, which one is your motivation to grow in your faith?

Share a personal experience where putting in effort resulted in spiritual growth?

WEEKLY STUDY GUIDE

Group discussion continued: Identify and discuss the 2 benefits Peter (vs 10-11) gives us to “putting in the effort” to grow in our relationship with Jesus by pursuing these qualities.

Deeper Community: What are some barriers that prevent you from putting effort into your relationship with God, and how can you overcome them?

PRAYER (In gender based groups)

*Share praises, answered prayers, and prayer requests. Pray for each other as we pursue Godliness together.

Closing Prayer (together as a group)

Lord, help us to diligently cultivate our faith with virtue, knowledge, self-control, steadfastness, godliness, and love. May we be effective and fruitful in our knowledge of Jesus and confirm our calling as we journey towards Your eternal kingdom. In Jesus name, Amen.

REGISTER NOW FOR FALL



[INFO AND REGISTER HERE](#)