

2 Peter

Fruitful Growth in the Faith (2 Peter 1:5-11)

Our approach each week will be REAP (read, explain, apply, personalize).

Read: Fruitful Growth in the Faith (1:5-11)

Greeting the Faithful

1 Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ,

To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

2 Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, 3 as His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, 4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption *that is* in the world through lust.

Fruitful Growth in the Faith

5 But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, 6 to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, 7 to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. 8 For if these things are yours and abound, *you* will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.

10 Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; 11 for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Explain: Fruitful Growth in the Faith (1:5-11)

Bible study is asking and answering questions about the text. Let's ask some.

Are there any literary/structural observations?

Today's passage is directed exclusively to believers (seven times you/your/yours shows up). Today's passage builds on last week's text and draws a conclusion.

What are the most repeated words in 2 Peter?

Their/them/themselves/they (42), you/your (28), he/his/him (22), our/us/we (21), **will** (21), Lord (15), I/my (11), day (9), Jesus (9), **know**/knowing/known/knows (9), Christ (8), God (7), knowledge (7), righteous/righteousness (7), beloved (6), destruction/destructive (6), holy (6), own (6), heavens (5), Savior (5), speak/speaking (5), way (5), world (5), earth (4), glory (4), godliness (4), judgment (4), promise (4), water (4), lust/lusts (4)

What are the most repeated words in this text?

You/your/yours(7), he/his(3), knowledge(3), these(3), things(3), will(3), brotherly kindness(2), Christ(2), diligence/diligent(2), godliness(2), Jesus(2), Lord(2), our(2), perseverance(2), self-control(2), virtue(2)

What do the words mean?

5 But also for this very reason, giving [aorist active participle; to bear in alongside, i.e., introduce simultaneously: give] **all diligence** [“speed,” i.e., (by implication) despatch, eagerness, earnestness: business, (earnest) care(-fulness), diligence, forwardness, haste], **add** [aorist active **imperative**; to furnish besides, i.e., **fully** supply, (figuratively) aid or contribute: add, minister (nourishment, unto); used in **1:5, 11**] **to your faith** [*pistis*; persuasion, i.e., credence; moral conviction (of religious truth, or the truthfulness of God or a religious teacher), especially reliance upon Christ for salvation; abstractly, constancy in such profession; by extension, the system of religious (Gospel) truth itself: assurance, belief, believe, faith, fidelity; used in **1:1, 5**] **virtue** [properly, manliness (valor), i.e., excellence (intrinsic or attributed): praise, virtue; used in **1:3**, twice in **5**], **to virtue** [properly, manliness (valor), i.e., excellence (intrinsic or attributed): praise, virtue; used in **1:3**, twice in **5**] **knowledge** [*gnosis*; knowing (the act), i.e., (by implication) knowledge: knowledge, science; used in **1:5, 6; 3:18**], **6 to knowledge** [*gnosis*; knowing (the act), i.e., (by implication) knowledge: knowledge, science; used in **1:5, 6; 3:18**] **self-control** [self-control (especially continence): temperance; used twice in **1:6**], **to self-control** [self-control (especially continence): temperance; used in **1:6** (twice)] **perseverance** [**cheerful** (or hopeful) endurance, constancy: enduring, patience, patient continuance (waiting); used in **1:6** (twice)], **to perseverance** [cheerful (or hopeful) endurance, constancy: enduring, patience, patient continuance (waiting); used in **1:6** (twice)] **godliness** [piety; specially, the gospel scheme: godliness, holiness; used in **1:3, 6, 7; 3:11**], **7 to godliness** [piety; specially, the gospel scheme: godliness, **holiness**; used in **1:3, 6, 7; 3:11**] **brotherly kindness** [*philadelphia*; fraternal affection: brotherly love (kindness), love of the brethren; used in **1:7** (twice)], **and to brotherly kindness** [*philadelphia*; fraternal affection: brotherly love (kindness), love

of the brethren; used in **1:7** (twice)] **love** [*agape*; love, i.e., affection or benevolence; specially (plural) a love-feast: (feast of) charity(-ably), dear, love]. **8 For if these things are** [present active participle (**repeatedly** are); begin under (quietly), i.e., come into existence (be present or at hand); expletively, to exist (as copula or subordinate to an adjective, participle, adverb or preposition, or as an auxiliary to a principal (verb): after, behave, live; used in **1:8; 2:19; 3:11**] **yours and abound** [present active participle (**repeatedly** abound); to do, make or be more, i.e., increase (transitively or intransitively); by extension, to superabound: abound, abundant, make to increase, have over], **you will be** [present active indicative; to place down (permanently), i.e., (figuratively) to designate, constitute, convoy: appoint, be, conduct, make, ordain, set] **neither barren** [inactive, i.e., unemployed; (by implication) lazy, useless: barren, idle, slow] **nor unfruitful** [barren (literally or figuratively): without fruit, unfruitful] **in the knowledge** [*epignosis*; recognition, i.e., (by implication) full discernment, acknowledgement: (ac-)knowledge(-ing, -ment); used in **1:2, 3, 8; 2:20**] **of our Lord** [*kyrios*; supreme in authority, i.e., (as noun) controller; by implication, Master (as a respectful title): God, Lord, master, Sir; used in **1:2, 8, 11, 14, 16; 2:9, 11, 20; 3:2, 8, 9, 10, 15, 18**] **Jesus** ["Jehovah is salvation;"] used in **1:1** (twice), **2, 8, 11, 14, 16; 2:20; 3:18**] **Christ** ["anointed;"] used in **1:1** (twice), **8, 11, 14, 16; 2:20; 3:18**]. **9 For he who lacks** [a primary particle of qualified negation; (adverb) not, (conjunction) lest; also (as an interrogative implying a negative answer) whether: any but (that), God forbid, lack, lest, neither, never, no, none, nor, (can-)not, nothing, that not, un(-taken), without; used in **1:9; 2:21; 3:8**] **these things is shortsighted** [*myopazo*; present active participle (**repeatedly** shortsighted); to shut the eyes, i.e., blink (see indistinctly): cannot see far off], **even to** [present indicative; he (she or it) is; also (with neuter plural) they are: are, be(-long), call, come, consists, follow, (that) is (to say), make, means, profit, remains, wrestle; used in **1:9, 14, 17; 3:4, 16**] **blindness** [opaque (as if smoky), i.e., (by analogy) blind (physically or mentally): blind], **and has forgotten** [forgetfulness: forget] [not translated in the NKJV: to take (in very many applications, literally and figuratively (properly objective or active, to get hold of)): accept, be amazed, assay, attain, bring, catch, come on, forget, have, hold, obtain, receive, take (away, up); used in **1:9, 17**] **that he was cleansed** [a washing off, i.e., (ceremonially) ablution, (morally) expiation: cleansing, purge, purification(-fying)] **from his old** [(adverbially) formerly, or (by relatively) sometime since; (elliptically as adjective) ancient: any while, a great while ago, (of) old, in time past] **sins** [a sin (properly abstract): offence, sin(-ful); used in **1:9; 2:14**].

10 Therefore, [not translated in the NKJV; (adverbially) more (in a greater degree) or rather: better, (the) more (and more), (so) much (the more), rather] **brethren** [*adelphos*; a brother (literally or figuratively) near or remote: brother; used in **1:10**;

3:15, **be even more diligent** [aorist active **imperative**; to use speed, i.e., to make effort, be prompt or earnest: do (give) diligence, be diligent (forward), endeavor, labor, study; used in **1:10, 15; 3:14** **to make** [present middle infinitive; to make or do (in a very wide application, more or less direct): abide, agree, appoint, band together, be, bear, bewray, bring (forth), cast out, cause, commit, content, continue, deal, without any delay, (would) do(-ing), execute, exercise, fulfil, gain, give, have, hold, keep, lay wait, lighten the ship, make, none of these things move me, observe, ordain, perform, provide, have purged, purpose, put, raising up, shew, spend, take, tarry, transgress the law, work, yield; used in **1:10** (twice), **15, 19** **your call** [an invitation (figuratively): calling] **and election** [(divine) selection (abstractly or concretely): chosen, election] **sure** **stable** (literally or figuratively): firm, of force, steadfast, sure; used in **1:10, 19**, **for if you do** [present active participle (**repeatedly** do); to make or do (in a very wide application, more or less direct): abide, agree, appoint, band together, be, bear, bewray, bring (forth), cast out, cause, commit, content, continue, deal, without any delay, (would) do(-ing), execute, exercise, fulfil, gain, give, have, hold, keep, lay wait, lighten the ship, make, none of these things move me, observe, ordain, perform, provide, have purged, purpose, put, raising up, shew, spend, take, tarry, transgress the law, work, yield; used in **1:10** (twice), **15, 19** **these things you will never** [a double negative strengthening the denial; not at all: any more, at all, by any (no) means, neither, never, no (at all), in no case (wise), nor ever, not (at all, in any wise)] [not translated in the NKJV: indefinite adverb, at some time, ever: afore-(any, some-)time(-s), at length (the last), (n-)ever, in the old time, in time past, once, when; used in **1:10, 21** **stumble** [to trip, i.e., (figuratively) to err, sin, fail (of salvation): fall, offend, stumble]; **11 for so an entrance** [an entrance (literally or figuratively): coming, enter(-ing) in (to)] **will be supplied** [future **passive** indicative (note the passive tense—which means the subject is the recipient of the action); to furnish besides, i.e., fully supply, (figuratively) aid or contribute: add, minister (nourishment, unto); used in **1:5, 11** **to you abundantly** [copiously: abundantly, richly] **into the everlasting** [perpetual (also used of past time, or past and future as well): eternal, for ever, everlasting, world (began)] **kingdom** [*basileia*; properly, royalty, i.e., (abstractly) rule, or (concretely) a realm (literally or figuratively): kingdom, reign] **of our Lord** [*kyrios*; supreme in authority, i.e., (as noun) controller; by implication, Master (as a respectful title): God, Lord, master, Sir; used in **1:2, 8, 11, 14, 16; 2:9, 11, 20; 3:2, 8, 9, 10, 15, 18**] **and Savior** [*soter*; a deliverer, i.e., God or Christ: savior; used in **1:1, 11; 2:20; 3:2, 18**] **Jesus** [“Jehovah is salvation;” used in **1:1** (twice), **2, 8, 11, 14, 16; 2:20; 3:18**] **Christ** [“anointed;” used in **1:1** (twice), **8, 11, 14, 16; 2:20; 3:18**].

Apply (What is the point?)

1. The gospel does not give Christians a **checklist** (the list in **1:5-7** isn't something to check off—it's something to be)
2. Christians have a **part** in our sanctification
3. The gospel results in **changed** lives

Personalize (What do we do with that?)

1. **Experience** our Savior (He is the key to both the gospel and to right behavior)
2. **Engage** our sanctification (not just "my" sanctification, but "our" sanctification)
3. **Examine** our salvation (to ensure we are in the faith)

Next week: Peter's Approaching Death (1:12-15)

12 For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth. 13 Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you, 14 knowing that shortly I *must* put off my tent, just as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me. 15 Moreover I will be careful to ensure that you always have a reminder of these things after my decease.

Homework

1. Ask the Holy Spirit for help
2. Read next week's text (multiple times in multiple ways) (**2 Peter 1:12-15**)
3. Talk to someone about the text ([fb.com/OurSundaySchool](https://www.facebook.com/OurSundaySchool) or in person)
4. Share ([fb.com/OurSundaySchool](https://www.facebook.com/OurSundaySchool)) insights and questions by Thursday
5. Invite a member or non-member

Resources