



BAND of BROTHERS

SUMMER SERIES 2022 – WEEK 1

2 PETER 1:1-11 – Everything You Need

His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence...

– 2 Peter 1:3 ESV

- **Everything we need**

- This is a key theme in this letter: **The unmitigated provision of God**
- We lack nothing for...life and godliness

life – *zōē* – can refer to both **physical** and **spiritual** life

*“I came that they may have **life** (*zōē*) and have it abundantly.”* – John 10:10b ESV

godliness – *eusebeia* – piety toward God, reverence for God displayed through actions

- **The author**

- Simeon Peter
- Simeon** – Hebraic spelling of the name, Simon

- Peter would have placed a high value on **life** and **godliness**
- His own life was living proof that God could produce both in the life of anyone

Jesus’ warning

And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, “You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.” Peter answered him, “Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away.”

Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." Peter said to him, "Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!" – Matthew 26:30-35 ESV

Peter's fulfillment

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came up to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean." But he denied it before them all, saying, "I do not know what you mean." And when he went out to the entrance, another servant girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth." And again he denied it with an oath: "I do not know the man." – Matthew 26:69-72 ESV

After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you too are one of them, for your accent betrays you." Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know the man." And immediately the rooster crowed. And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly. – Matthew 26:73-75 ESV

Peter's restoration

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." – John 21:15-17 ESV

*Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go." (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, "**Follow me.**" – John 21:18-19 ESV*

- Peter had denied Jesus
- But Jesus had not given up on Peter
- He would later receive the Holy Spirit

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and

rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. – Acts 2:1-4 ESV

But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words.”

So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls. – Acts 2:14, 41 ESV

- Peter describes himself as...

a servant – *doulos* – a slave, bondservant

Literally: “to be owned by someone for a lifetime”

- one who gives himself up to another’s will
- devoted to another to the disregard of one’s own interests

an apostle – *apostolos* – messenger, sent one

“one sent forth with orders”

- Jesus had sent Peter to care for His sheep
- He had been commissioned as a “witness”

*“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my **witnesses** in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” – Acts 1:8 ESV*

witness – *martys* – witness, messenger

“one who is a spectator of anything”

*“This Jesus God raised up, and of that **we all are witnesses.**” – Acts 2:32 ESV*

*“But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. **To this we are witnesses.**” – Acts 3:14-15 ESV*

- **The audience**

*To those who have obtained **a faith of equal standing** with ours by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ... – 2 Peter 1:1 ESV*

- Peter was writing to believers
- And we all stand as equals at the foot of the cross
- Peter’s apostleship didn’t earn him bonus points with God

*I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become **righteous through faith in Christ**. For God's way of making us right with himself depends on faith. – Philippians 3:9 NLT*

“There are two kinds of Christian righteousness...the first is alien righteousness, that is the righteousness of another, instilled from without. This is the righteousness of Christ by which he justifies though faith...” – Martin Luther

“Imputation means that the righteousness of Jesus is counted for me the moment I believe in Jesus Christ. That righteousness is an alien righteousness. It belongs to Christ. When I put my trust in Him, He imputes or counts to me His righteousness. And on the basis of that imputed righteousness, God declares me just right now. So that if I die right now, I go heaven right now because I've all the righteousness I will ever need to get there, namely the righteousness of Jesus Christ.” – R. C. Sproul

- **Peter's prayer**

May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. – 2 Peter 1:3 ESV

- grace and peace
 - These two words have little meaning for us
 - They're “churchy-sounding” words
 - But for Peter they held deep significance
 - They have dual meanings

grace – *charis* – benevolence, love, mercy
“God's **favor** toward the **unworthy**”
“God's **benevolence** on the **undeserving**”

- But can God's favor be multiplied?
- Do we actually need more of His grace?

*For from his fullness we have all received, **grace upon grace**. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. – John 1:16-17 ESV*

*I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a violent man; yet because I had acted in ignorance and unbelief, I was shown mercy. And **the grace of our Lord overflowed to me**, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. – 1 Timothy 1:13-14 BSB*

- We get all the grace we need at salvation
- And the grace of God produces **peace**
Peace **with God**

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. – Romans 5:1 ESV

Peace with one another

*For Christ himself has brought peace to us. He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in his own body on the cross, he broke down the wall of hostility that separated us. He did this by ending the system of law with its commandments and regulations. **He made peace between Jews and Gentiles** by creating in himself one new people from the two groups. – Ephesians 2:14-15 NLT*

- **Spiritual supplements**

- God has supplied all that we need:
 - Grace Promises
 - Peace Knowledge
 - Power A divine nature

“. . . one of the great lessons of 2 Peter is that to maintain a holy life in a world like ours, we must be deeply rooted in the prophetic promises of God’s word. Above all, we must hold fast to that ‘blessed hope’ of the coming again of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”
– Zane C. Hodges, “Exposition of Second Peter”

- Peter instructs his readers to supplement their faith with...
 - ...virtue (moral excellence)
 - ...knowledge (as revealed in God’s Word)
 - ...self-control (self-discipline)
 - ...steadfastness (patient endurance)
 - ...godliness (godly behavior)
 - ...brotherly affection (acts of kindness)
 - ...love (self-sacrificing love)

no increase = no effectiveness
= fruitlessness
= blindness

- **A prescription for holiness**

Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. – 2 Peter 1:10 ESV

- **Confirm** your calling
How do you **prove** you’ve been called?
What is the greatest **evidence** that your faith is real?
- **Practice** these qualities
You take advantage of all that God has provided

You put into use all the gifts God has given

- **Focus** your faith on the future

*For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into **the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.** – 2 Peter 1:11 ESV*

You live faithfully in

the here-and-now

with your hope focused on

the hereafter

- **Discussion questions**

Why do you think we find it so difficult to remain faithful in the here-and-now while focusing on the hereafter?

Go back and look at the list of “spiritual supplements” in verses 5-6. Which one(s) could you use to have an extra dose?

In what ways does your behavior prove that you don’t believe God has provided all you need for life and godliness? What does Paul suggest we do?

FOR NEXT WEEK: Read 2 Peter 1:12-15 and pages 17-19 in Ken’s Devotional™ on 2 Peter