

GROWING IN MATURITY

The Book of 2 Peter, #3

2 Peter 1:5-7

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“In view of all this, make every effort to respond to God’s promises. Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence, and moral excellence with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with patient endurance, and patient endurance with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love for everyone.” (2 Peter 1:5–7, NLT)

The order emphasizes what God has done for us.

*“Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins.”
(Ephesians 2:1, NLT)*

*“You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins.”
(Colossians 2:13a, NLT)*

The essence of sins means I want to have it my way.

“We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.” (Isaiah 53:6, NIV)

The gospel turns me from my way to becoming a follower of Christ.

*Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins.”
(Colossians 2:13b, NLT)*

- a. I accept the salvation you made possible for at the Cross as my only hope before God.
- b. I submit to your will as revealed in the Bible.
- c. I depend upon the Holy Spirit to grow.

God's promises make it possible for me to grow.

“In view of all this, make every effort to respond to God's promises. Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence, and moral excellence with knowledge,” (2 Peter 1:5, NLT)

“God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God.” (Ephesians 2:8, NLT)

“I planted the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow.” (1 Corinthians 3:6, NLT)

GROWTH IS:

1. **Possible**
2. **Necessary**
3. **Gradual**

“The more you grow like this, ...” (2 Peter 1:8, NLT)

1 John 2:12–14 Three Stages of Faith

- A. Children - newest
- B. Young in Faith - growing
- C. Mature in Faith - Mature

4. **Organic**
5. **Visible**