



# BETTER THAN BEFORE

GROWING INTO  
GOD'S BEST FOR YOUR LIFE

## WEEK 4

### SUPPLEMENT YOUR FAITH

## DAY 1 -

# MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO GROW

*"For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge." —2 Peter 1:5 (NIV)*

**G**rowth never happens by accident. Peter is reminding us that spiritual maturity does not take the same luck as winning the lottery. God saves us by grace, but He grows us through partnership. It is like God is saying, I will work in you, but I need you to show up. Faith is the starting point, but it is not the finish line. It is the foundation that you keep building on for the rest of your life.

When Peter says "make every effort", he is calling us to bring intentionality to our walk with God. Nothing gets stronger without resistance. Muscles grow because you push against something. Your faith grows for the same reason, through Scripture, through prayer, through choosing obedience in the small everyday moments. Growth is built through small choices repeated again and again, not by waiting for a big spiritual moment. Just as a teacher creates weekly lesson plans for their class, create a plan to spiritually grow and learn.

Paul says something similar in Philippians 2: *"Continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill His good purpose."* —Philippians 2:12-13 (NIV)

You work out what God has already worked in. That means your effort does not earn anything from God, but your effort does shape who you are becoming. When you make space for God, when you create room for His voice and His truth, He begins to strengthen you from the inside out.

Spiritual growth requires choice, consistency, and surrender. It is not about trying harder, it is about showing up daily and letting God transform you.

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Where have you become passive in your walk with God?

What daily practice could help you grow with intention this week?

# DAY 2 - ADD VIRTUE TO GROW YOUR FAITH

*"Make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge." —2 Peter 1:5 (NIV)*

Faith is where everything starts, but Peter shows us that faith is meant to grow into something visible and life-changing. Virtue is simply your faith showing up in the way you live. It is your character catching up with your belief. It is what happens when the truth you believe moves from your head into your everyday decisions. Virtue is like a team doing footwork drills because they know that fundamentals shape everything else.

Virtue is usually built in the small moments, not the big ones. It shows up when you choose honesty even when no one would know the difference. It shows up when you choose purity even when temptation feels strong. It shows up when you treat someone with gentleness even though anger would feel easier. These choices may feel small in the moment, but they are shaping the person you are becoming. They are forming a life that looks more like Jesus.

Paul says it this way in Philippians: *"Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ."* —Philippians 1:27 (NIV)

A virtuous life is not about perfection. It is about direction. It is about taking steps toward Christ in the way you think, the way you speak, and the way you respond. When your private life lines up with your public faith, something powerful happens. Your witness gains weight. People begin to see Christ in you without you having to say a word.

God is always shaping your character. The question is whether you will lean into that shaping or resist it. Small, faithful choices today become strong spiritual muscles tomorrow.

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What area of your character is God inviting you to strengthen?

What small, consistent choice could build integrity in you this week?

# DAY 3 - ADD KNOWLEDGE TO GROW YOUR FAITH

*“Add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control;” - 2 Peter 1:5-6 (NIV)*

Just like an actor knowing the script to a play brings freedom and confidence, knowledge the Word strengthens your faith and stabilizes your walk with Christ. This is not about collecting information or trying to impress people with what you know. This kind of knowledge is about letting the truth of God shape how you make decisions and how you see the world. The more you understand God, the more confident you become in following Him.

Zeal without knowledge can move you in the wrong direction. Passion is good, but passion with truth is powerful. When you fill your mind with Scripture, God begins to renew your desires, sharpen your discernment, and expose the lies the enemy tries to plant in your heart.

Paul writes, *“Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly.”* — *Colossians 3:16 (NIV)*

Letting the Word dwell richly means you do not treat Scripture like a guest who stops by occasionally. You treat it like a permanent resident. You give it space to guide you, teach you, encourage you, and correct you. When Scripture becomes something you live, not just something you read, real transformation begins.

Knowledge creates confidence. It strengthens your decisions. It builds clarity. It shapes your identity. You cannot grow spiritually if you do not feed on truth consistently. Give God your attention, and He will give you His wisdom.

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Is there a truth from Scripture that you have been slow to apply?

When can you set aside intentional time to learn from the Word this week?

# DAY 4 - ADD SELF-CONTROL AND PERSEVERANCE TO GROW YOUR FAITH

*“Add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance;” 2 Peter 1:5-6 (NIV)*

Self-control and perseverance are two qualities that grow you like nothing else. For a marathon runner, finishing strong beats starting fast. Self-control helps you master your impulses. Perseverance helps you stay steady through difficulty. One protects your reactions. The other protects your commitment.

Self-control shows up in the pause. It is that brief moment when you choose wisdom instead of emotion. It is deciding not to say what you feel like saying. It is stepping away from temptation before it pulls you in. Every time you choose restraint, God strengthens your spiritual muscles a little more.

Perseverance is about staying in the fight. It is what you rely on when progress feels slow, when your prayers feel unanswered, or when obedience feels costly. Perseverance is not glamorous, but it builds deep roots in your faith.

Paul reminds us, *“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” —Galatians 6:9 (NIV)*

Growth rarely comes in the comfortable seasons. It comes in the consistent ones. When self-control and perseverance work together, your faith becomes durable and tested and ready for whatever comes next.

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Where do you need to slow down and respond with more self-control?

What truth helps you keep going when you feel like giving up?

# DAY 5 - ADD GODLINESS, BROTHERLY AFFECTION, AND LOVE TO GROW YOUR FAITH

*“Add to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love.” —2 Peter 1:6-7 (NIV)*

A team can have a lot of individual talent, but won't be successful without care and unity. Peter ends his list with three qualities that reveal true spiritual maturity. Godliness shapes your relationship with God. It is a life that honors Him, respects Him, and seeks to please Him. It is not about looking spiritual. It is about living aware of His presence.

Brotherly affection shapes how you treat other believers. It means being inviting, seeking unity, and providing care. It means cheering for one another, lifting each other up, and choosing community instead of isolation.

Love is the final and highest expression. It is the way you treat people who do not think like you or agree with you. It is the way Jesus loves, with sacrifice, patience, and compassion.

Jesus said, *“By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” —John 13:35 (NIV)*

Spiritual growth shows up in love. Knowledge without love becomes stale. Affection without love becomes shallow. Love is the mark of a heart shaped by Christ.

Every time you offer kindness, every time you forgive, every time you choose compassion instead of convenience, you are growing into the person God intends you to be.

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Who can you show kindness to this week?

How can consistent acts of love deepen your spiritual maturity?