

## Sermon Study Guide –

### 2 Peter 1:5-11

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Week of September 11, 2022

Title: **“Make Every Effort”**

**Sermon Idea:** Believers are to cooperate with God in becoming like Christ – those who do so will be richly rewarded.

#### Key Points:

1. Believers are to sow Christ-like traits. (vv.5-7)
2. You will reap what you sow. (vv.8-9)
3. Believers who sow Christ-like traits will be richly rewarded. (vv.10-11)

**What do I want people to know?** I want people to know that in light of our participation in Christ, we are to go all out in living a Christ-like life. When we appropriate what God has given us, we lead productive, fruitful lives which will receive God’s ultimate commendation in His eternal kingdom.

**What do I want people to do?** I want people to (1) create a progress report on their spiritual growth, (2) keep a journal of any ‘small wins,’ (3) avoid ‘gospel amnesia.’

**What need am I addressing?** I am addressing the need for godly living in a corrupt world.

**Recommended Resources:** *“The Progress Principle,”* Teresa Amabile; *“The Power of Humility,”* R.T. Kendall

**Intro:** If God gave you a spiritual progress report in the key virtues listed in 2 Peter 1:5-7, what would it look like?

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#### Dig:

**Day 1: 2 Peter 1:5-11** is a challenge from Peter to “make every effort” to grow in Christlikeness. What other virtues might you add to the ones Peter lists? Why is it encouraging that Peter calls for an “increasing measure” of each one?

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**Day 2: Philippians 2:12-16** tells us to “work out our salvation with fear and trembling?” Are we to earn our salvation? If not, how does this square with the gospel of grace?

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**Day 3: 1 Corinthians 3:10-15** describes the different ways that believers choose to live their lives and how they will be accordingly judged. Give examples of what kind of work will survive God’s judgment and what won’t.

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**Day 4: James 2:14-17** bluntly says that faith without works is dead. Again, how does this square with the gospel of grace?

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**Day 5: Revelation 3:14-22** is a letter written to the church at Laodicea which exposes their lukewarmness. What is God expecting from them? What do they need to do in order to be pleasing to God?

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#### Apply:

- Create a spiritual progress report including the virtues listed in 2 Peter 1:5-7.
- Keep a journal of “small wins” – recording any time you’ve made progress in any spiritual area.
- Avoid “gospel amnesia!” Regularly review the gospel and its benefits – maybe each morning as you get up.

**Pray:** Dear Father God, thank You for sending Jesus that we might experience Your fullness in our lives. Help me to make every effort to appropriate all the spiritual gifts you’ve placed in me. May my life bring glory to You both here and in Your eternal kingdom! Amen!

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