

# Eight Steps to Maturity.



## ***2 Peter 1:1-11 (NKJV)***

*<sup>1</sup> 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:*

*<sup>2</sup> Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord,*



<sup>3</sup> 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, <sup>4</sup> 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.



*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.*



*<sup>8</sup> For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.*





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



# I. Precious Faith

a. Because of this faith we are recipients of the divine nature.



# I. Precious Faith

b. This faith brings to us multiplied grace and peace.





# I. Precious Faith

c. We are recipients of God's power and exceedingly great and precious promises because of this faith.



## I. Precious Faith

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Our goal should be to have the character of  
Christ.

Jesus grew into spiritual maturity.



***Luke 2:52 (NLT2)***

*52 Jesus grew in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and all the people.*

***Hebrews 5:8 (NKJV)***

*8 though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.*



# Eight Steps to Maturity

## 1. Faith



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## 2. Virtue – Moral Excellence





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## 3. Knowledge

### ***2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV)***

*<sup>15</sup> Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*



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## 4. Self-Control



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## 5. Perseverance



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6. Godliness: denotes a “radical, fanatical devotion to God.”

*Rick Renner – Sparkling Gems from the Greek*

*...exercise yourself toward godliness.*

***(1 Timothy 4:7 NKJV)***



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## 7. Brotherly Kindness

*1 John 3:16-19 (NLT2)*

*<sup>16</sup> We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters.*



*17 If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister in need but shows no compassion—how can God's love be in that person?*

*18 Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions.*

*19 Our actions will show that we belong to the truth, so we will be confident when we stand before God.*





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## 8. Agape Love



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



# Three Blessings of Spiritual Maturity

- 1. Spiritual maturity gives birth to fruitful lives.**



# Three Blessings of Spiritual Maturity

**2. Spiritual maturity guards one from getting tripped up.**



# Three Blessings of Spiritual Maturity

**3. Spiritual maturity guarantees a Grand entrance into the kingdom of heaven.**





# Refusing to Practice Spritiual Growth

**Reveals short-sightedness and blindness.**

