

ESSENTIAL VIRTUES

	Loving God with My Whole Heart	Loving Neighbors as Myself	
	THE GROUNDWORK FOR CHRISTLIKE CHARACTER (v. 5)	THE BACKBONE OF CHRISTLIKE CHARACTER (v. 6)	THE TRADEMARK OF CHRISTLIKE CHARACTER (v. 7)
ESSENTIAL VIRTUES	<p>Saving FAITH</p> <p>Being a “partaker of the divine nature” through the righteousness of Jesus Christ</p> <p>↓</p> <p>Pursuing the EXCELLENCE of Christlikeness</p> <p>Cultivating a God-mandated purpose to develop and display the excellencies (character) of Jesus Christ</p> <p>↓</p> <p>KNOWLEDGE</p> <p>Cultivating a God-taught understanding of the person, the work, and the ways of Jesus Christ</p>	<p>SELF-CONTROL</p> <p>Cultivating a God-empowered mastery of my internal desires</p> <p>↓</p> <p>ENDURANCE</p> <p>Cultivating a God-sustained faithfulness under external pressure</p> <p>↓</p> <p>GODLINESS</p> <p>Cultivating a God-honoring devotion to Jesus Christ that promotes righteousness and opposes evil</p>	<p>BROTHERLY KINDNESS</p> <p>Cultivating a God-engendered affection for and service to those in the “household of faith”</p> <p>↓</p> <p>LOVE</p> <p>Cultivating a God-imitating mindset that scripturally and sacrificially meets the spiritual needs of others</p>
	CORE VALUES	<p>COMMITMENT to Christ</p> <p>These traits produce a whole-hearted disciple who chooses the appeals and ideals of Christ and rejects the appeals and ideals of the world.</p>	<p>COURAGE for Christ</p> <p>These traits produce a brave-hearted disciple who advances Christ and His ways and opposes evil in himself and others regardless of risk to himself.</p>

Book: 2 Peter
Series: *True Faith vs. False Teaching: Add To Your Faith, Knowledge*
Lesson 4: *Our Productive Faith, Part 2 (The Groundwork for Christlike Character)*
Text: 2 Peter 1:5
Date: Sunday, September 16, 2012

INTRODUCTION

True farmers must both explore and work their farms. Likewise, true faith both explores its wealth and works its wealth—it both recognizes what it has and operates that. As in the physical world, God has ordained within spiritual growth the needs for cooperative effort.

In our text, we spent lesson 2 “exploring the farm” in verses 1-4—examining all that God had given us in our faith, all “the provisions He has made available to us to work the farm.” Now, in verses 5-11, we are told that we must “work the farm”—to give diligent effort to practically maintain and bring to fruition what He has given to us.

Before we actually begin to “work the farm” and cultivate Christlike character in our faith, let’s actually consider the list at hand in verses 5-7. A few observations should be noted:

1. _____

Application:

2. _____

Application:

3. _____

Application:

CONCLUSION

Having been gifted by God with a lavish and abundantly supplied faith, let us “work the farm” and cultivate the conditions within which God can produce the image of His Son in our character.