

Grace for Growing Up To Maturity

"Amazed By Grace" Series- Part 07

Connect: Share a recent example of someone who is relatively young but who has demonstrated an unusual or unexpected maturity in thought, deed, or speech.

Hook: We live in a nation where we are told that if we buy or use a certain product we are assured success and "a money back guarantee" if not completely satisfied. Often times we find that the advertiser has "over promised and under delivered". Pastor Brandon has made some bold statements, and, yes, promises concerning the grace of God. The good news is that the Bible is filled with stories in which God always makes good on His promises. In our small group study today, we find the Apostle Peter telling his readers that God's grace not only provides salvation, but that it is His grace that provides spiritual maturity as well. God can deliver!

Book:

2Pe 1:2 May God give you more and more grace and peace as you grow in your knowledge of God and Jesus our Lord.

2Pe 1:3 By His divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know Him, the One who called us to Himself by means of His marvelous glory and excellence.

2Pe 1:4 And because of His glory and excellence, He has given us great and precious promises. These are the promises that enable you to share His divine nature and escape the world's corruption caused by human desires.

2Pe 1:5 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,

2Pe 1:6 and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with patient endurance, and patient endurance with godliness,

2Pe 1:7 and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love for everyone.

2Pe 1:8 The more you grow like this, the more productive and useful you will be in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2Pe 1:9 But those who fail to develop in this way are shortsighted or blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their old sins.

2Pe 1:10 So, dear brothers and sisters, work hard to prove that you really are among those God has called and chosen. Do these things, and you will never fall away. -2 Peter 1:2-10

Look:

In verse 2, Peter states that for every Christian, there is an expectation. What is it?

How can one measure spiritual growth within himself or in others?

What do we learn about the journey toward spiritual maturity in verses 3 and 4?

In verse 5, Peter states that when it comes to God's promises, we should "*make every effort to respond to them.*"

Carefully look at the remaining scriptures in our text (verses 5-10), make a list of how we are to respond to God's promises:

Making it Personal:

1. From the above list, which of these has been the most helpful in your spiritual growth?
2. Which one of these needs more attention on your part?
3. How does your spiritual maturity reflect God's glory and excellence (verse 4a)