

Text: 1 Corinthians 3:9 and 2 Peter 1:1-11
Topic: Spiritual Growth in the Church
Study: The Church is a field: Guide to Maturity
First Corinthians
Week 5 of 8
Series 7

River of Life Church
May 30, 2010

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**The Eight Spiritual *Values* of Highly Effective Christians
“Perseverance”**

1) God _____ You!

2) God _____ You!

3) God _____ You!

**Text for today: 2
Peter 1:1-11**

3 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

(Manifestation of
the divine
character of
Christ) and virtue,

4 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. Fruitful Growth
in the Faith 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. 8 For if these
things are yours

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. Take time this week to study and write out your response to each of these questions. This will help drive home the point of today's message and will help you to apply the principles to your life situation.

- 1) Write and commit to memory Romans 5:3-5

The opposite of patience is impatience. Identify areas in your life where you are struggling with impatience. (What is it in your life that is calling for large amounts of patience?)

- 2) Read James 1:2-4 and 1 Peter 4:12-13. "Trial" is *DOKIMAZO* in the Greek. Meant to: Improve the quality of something (i.e., Character etc....), or to Approve quality already there. God is busy affirming and approving the quality already within you, but this can prove challenging at times.

Read this quote by G.K. Chesterton, "*When belief in God becomes difficult, the tendency is to turn away from Him; but in heaven's name to what?*"

The attitude we maintain through our trials definitely has a part to play in determining how well we "endure" them. Have you discovered how easy it is for your attitude to ruin your testimony? This week ask the Holy Spirit to place a guard over your mouth and mind so that every word and thought is taken captive. Write out a pray that you can pray every day.

- 3) Each day this week take time to confess the "Just for today" principle. Expect God to supply or add His divine nature to your spiritual account (2 Pet.1:11). Make notes of revelation received. *Example: Just for today I will, "take every thought captive...."*

(Monday through Sunday): **Just for today I will**.....

NOTES:.....

- 4) George Muller, a great evangelist and writer in 1800's talking about the will of God, said, "I seek the Will of the Spirit of God through, or in connection with, the Word of God. The Spirit and the Word must be combined. If I look to the Spirit alone without the Word, I lay myself open to great delusions also. If the Holy Ghost guides us at all, He will do it according to the Scriptures and never contrary to them."

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. What does it say about God's will for your life? Use this passage as a simple tool to be faith to obeying the scriptures. "...In everything give thanks..." Thank God "through" the tough times. It's good for you. See 2 Peter 1:11 for the promise.
