

Throughout this study, we've had our eyes on one target: to "_____ in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Pet 3:18). James, Peter, and Jude have been messengers from God, our guides pointing us in the right direction. There's no better place to end our journey than **2 Peter 1**. Notice how Peter begins this letter:

Simeon Peter, a _____ and _____ of Jesus Christ,

To those who have obtained a faith of _____ standing with ours by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. (1:1-2)

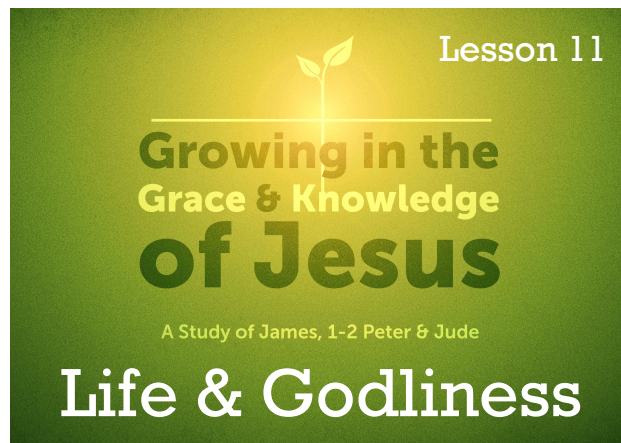
A faith of equal standing with an apostle? How can that be? Multiplied grace and peace? To me? How can that happen? Let's just listen:

His _____ has granted to us all things that pertain to _____ and _____, through the _____ of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in

the world because of sinful desire. For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your _____ with _____, and virtue with _____, and knowledge with _____-control, and self-control with _____, and steadfastness with _____, and godliness with brotherly _____, and brotherly affection with _____. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. For in this _____ there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of _____ Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. (1:3-11)

Lots of people want to grow in lots of different areas of life. But what matters most of all?

Growing in **life** and **godliness**. Peter has shown us where the power is. He's introduced us to who we need to know. He's shared the difference that Jesus can make in our lives. Now it's up to us to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus. **Let's talk about it...**



For Class & Family Discussion:

- When you hear Peter introduce his letter, “To those who have obtained a faith of equal standing with ours by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ” (2 Pet 1:1), what goes through your mind? What does it mean to have “a faith of equal standing” with an apostle?

- “His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness” (1:3). Think about those last three words. Why are these the most important areas we could possibly grow in? What is it going to look like when we really begin to grow in those areas?

- Let’s talk about the **how**. “For this very reason, make every effort to supplement...” In your own words, what are these ingredients? Why do they matter? How do they help us grow in the areas of life that matter most?
 - ◆ Faith -

 - ◆ Virtue -

 - ◆ Knowledge -

 - ◆ Self-control -

 - ◆ Steadfastness -

 - ◆ Godliness -

 - ◆ Brotherly affection -

 - ◆ Love -

- One more time, let’s read 2 Peter 3:17-18—the very end of Peter’s second letter— together. In your own words, what have all these messengers from God been telling us? What do we need to remember as this journey comes to an end?