

VIRTUES

Having looked at Peter's seven words that comprise the Christian Virtues, the text now layers application and insights that are directly related to those words. In this lesson our focus is upon verse eight.

- These qualities: the seven virtues are viewed as "qualities"
 - they are not duties...commands...nor, have to
 - they are values...they add worth to us

(1) These qualities are _____

- this is who you are
This is who you are: at home, worship, work
- there is a difference from doing things and being those things
- 1 Pet 1:15 _____ holy
- Mt 10:25; 18:3; Rom 8:29
- Peter moves into the area of _____

How is character formed?

2 Peter 1:8-11 For if these *qualities* are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ For he who lacks these *qualities* is blind or short-sighted, having forgotten *his* purification from his former sins. ¹⁰ Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble; ¹¹ for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.



Examples of Positive Character Traits			
Brave	Courage	Empathy	Kind
Logical	Obedient	Rational	Witty
Examples of Negative Character Traits			
Aggressive	Jealous	Liar	Rude
Wicked	Egocentric	Greedy	Unpleasant

(a) Peter is identifying two things about our character

- our character can _____ ("add")
When a person says, "I can't help it, it's just who I am" - that's not true.
The truth is, that's who they choose to be

- our character can _____ (we can add quality to our character)

When does a person's true colors come out?

(2) These qualities are _____

- you are not staying the same
- you are not decreasing
- steady improvement in your character

(a) we commonly call this spiritual _____

2 Cor 10:15 "...but with the hope that as your _____ grows..."

1 Thes 4:1 "...that you _____ still more"

2 Thes 1:3 "...your faith is greatly _____, and the love of each one of you toward one another grows even _____"

1 Tim 4:15 "Take pains with these things; be absorbed in them, so that your _____ will be evident to all"

2 Pet 3:18 "but _____ in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ"

How do we increase these character qualities?

What are some signs that we are improving?

What are the challenges to increasing these qualities?

- The one talent man is referred to as Worthless (Mt 25:30)
- The sons of Eli were considered worthless (1 Sam 2:12)
- Abigail called her husband worthless (1 Sam 25:25)
- A worthless person walks with a perverse mouth (Prov 6:12)
- A worthless man digs up evil (Prov 16:27)
- If Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless (1 Cor 15:17)
- If anyone thinks himself to be religious, and yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this man's religion is worthless (Jas 1:26)

(3) They qualities render you neither U _____ or U _____

- John 15:8 "My Father is glorified by this, that you bear _____ fruit, and so prove to be My disciples"
- John 15:2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear _____ fruit."

What is it within these qualities that will make a person be useful and fruitful?

