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Crucified Living: Character Is Key

2 Peter 1:2-4 - *May God give you more and more grace and peace as you grow in your knowledge of God and Jesus our Lord. 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. 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.*

- **God's Promises Empower To Us Grow.**
- **Our Participation In These Promises Strengthen Us.**

Where There's Life, There's Growth

Spiritual Growth Isn't Automatic

2 Peter 1:5-7 - *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, ⁶ and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with patient endurance, and patient endurance with godliness, ⁷ and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love for everyone.*

Our Motive To Be Our Very Best Is The Moral Excellence Of Christ's Life

James 2:17 - *So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.*

Ephesians 5:17 - *Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do.*

Philippians 1:9 - *I pray that your love will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding.*

Proverbs 25:28 - *A person without self-control is like a city with broken-down walls.*

Romans 8:12-13 - ...you have no obligation to do what your sinful nature urges you to do. ¹³ For if you live by its dictates, you will die. But if through the power of the Spirit you put to death the deeds of your sinful nature, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

The Ability To Endure When Circumstances Are Difficult

Romans 5:3-4 - We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance.

James 1:3 - For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow.

A Quality Of Character That Makes A Person Stand Out

If We Love Christ, We'll Love His Church

1 Peter 1:22 - You were cleansed from your sins when you obeyed the truth, so now you must show sincere love to each other as brothers and sisters. Love each other deeply with all your heart.

1 John 4:20-21 - If someone says, "I love God," but hates a fellow believer, that person is a liar; for if we don't love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we cannot see? ²¹ And he has given us this command: Those who love God must also love their fellow believers.

In The Church Love Allows For Flaws And Imperfections, It Faces Problems, Affirms Others, And Carries A Strong Commitment And Loyalty