



Adding to Your Faith ^{part 2}

What It Means to Be "Good"

1:3 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. 5 For this very reason, ***make every effort to add to your faith goodness***; and to goodness, knowledge; 6 and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; 7 and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. 8 For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 But if anyone does not have them, he is nearsighted and blind, and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his past sins. 10 Therefore, my brothers, be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never fall, 11 and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. 12 So I will always remind you of these things, even though you know them and are firmly established in the truth you now have. 13 I think it is right to refresh your memory as long as I live in the tent of this body, 14 because I know that I will soon put it aside, as our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me. 15 And I will make every effort to see that after my departure you will always be able to remember these things. (NIV)

1. Work Hard to _____

2. Work Hard to _____

3. Work Hard to _____

4. Work Hard to _____

Application Questions

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

1. Read and reread Philippians 4:8. What recurring thoughts often settle in your mind that don't make the cut?

Through what avenues are you letting things in that don't belong there?

What will you do about that?

2. Read James 3:6. What have you set on fire lately?

What reparations need to be made? How can excellent words help to mend what has been burned up?

When will you do it? How will you do it?

3. How can your *attitude* move from mediocre to superior?
4. In which of your actions, behaviors, or habits have you settled for "good" over "bad" instead of striving for "best" over "better"?
5. Second Peter 1:5 says that adding "excellence" to our faith should be something to which we apply "every effort". In what areas do you think this will take the most effort for you?