

Hope Church

Sunday Sermon 6/15/2025

To watch sermon, click here: [📺 Sunday Morning Worship 2025-06-15](#)

Life Group Discussion Guide: 2 Peter 1:4–11

Title: Called to Grow

God has equipped every believer with all they need to grow spiritually and live a godly life. Our role is to respond actively—partnering with Him to grow in character and reflect His nature.

Session Goals:

- **Head Change:** Understand that spiritual growth is not about striving harder but participating in the new nature God has provided through Jesus Christ.
- **Heart Change:** Desire to grow spiritually with the eagerness and passion of a child, wanting to become more like our Heavenly Father.
- **Life Change:** Intentionally cultivate spiritual growth by seeking to know God more deeply and by applying His promises in daily living.

Opening Discussion:

Prompt:

Have you ever thought you were growing spiritually just because you were "busy for God"? What actually helped you grow in your relationship with Him?

Intro:

Today, we return to 2 Peter 1. Peter writes to a church under threat—not from persecution, but from false teaching that dilutes the truth of Jesus with comfortable cultural ideas. His answer is not just to fight error, but to *grow* in truth. Spiritual growth is both a sign and a safeguard of authentic faith.

Scripture Reading:

Read: 2 Peter 1:4–11

Encourage the group to listen for what God has done and how we are called to respond.

Discussion Questions:

Understanding the Text:

1. In verse 4, Peter speaks of "great and precious promises." What are some of these promises you've seen in Scripture?
2. What does it mean to "share in the divine nature"? How does this contrast with the world's corruption?
3. Why does Peter list these virtues in verses 5–7 in the order he does? How do they build on each other?

Connecting the Text to Life:

4. Peter emphasizes that we already have everything needed for life and godliness. Why do many Christians still feel spiritually “stuck”?
5. What does it look like in practical terms to *make every effort* to add to your faith?
6. In what ways can busyness in church life actually distract us from spiritual growth?

Personal Reflection:

7. Which of the virtues listed in verses 5–7 do you feel God is especially calling you to grow in right now?
8. How would your life look different if spiritual growth became your passion rather than a low priority?

Additional Reading and Reflection:**Suggested Scriptures:**

- Colossians 2:6–10 — Rooted in Christ, not human philosophy.
- Ephesians 4:20–24 — Putting off the old self, putting on the new.
- Galatians 5:22–25 — Fruit of the Spirit and spiritual growth.

Reflection Questions:

- How does knowing God more personally help you live more like Him?
- Where in your life are you resisting growth—perhaps preferring comfort or familiarity?

Application and Personal Commitment:

- **Challenge:** What is one area of your life this week where you will actively seek to reflect God's nature—whether through patience, love, or self-control?
- **Commitment:** Set aside specific time this week not to *do* more for God, but to *be* with God. Seek Him in His Word and in prayer.

Last Word:

Peter reminds us: Growth is not optional—it's essential. It is our safeguard against deception and our assurance of fruitfulness. God has already done the equipping. Now, we respond with a heart that wants to grow, becoming more like Christ and more effective in the Kingdom.

Let's remember: growth isn't measured in years, but in intimacy. Seek to *know* God more deeply, and your life will naturally reflect Him more clearly.

Go Deeper (Optional Devotional Thought): "Growing with God"

Children naturally long to grow. They measure themselves constantly, eager to be taller, stronger, more capable. What if we approached our spiritual life the same way? Rather than settling into a spiritual routine, what if we longed to be more like our Father in heaven—asking daily, “Am I more like Jesus today than I was yesterday?”

Meditate on this:

“By His divine power, He has given us everything we need...” (2 Peter 1:3).
Are you living in that reality today?