2 Peter 1
Jerry Bridges

I. Introduction.

    A. Christians do not become better Christians by osmosis. There are principles to apply.

    B. Christians must "work at it." (2 Peter 1:1-8)

    C. There are three principles of the godly life.

II. The source of the godly life is God himself.

    A. We gain access through knowing Jesus.

    B. It is not enough to know Christ through salvation We know Jesus to be more like him. (Philippians 3)

    C. We withdraw all God's good resources for godliness by knowing Jesus.

III. The means of appropriating the godly life is through the Word of God.

    A. We appropriate God's life through God's extensive promises.

        1. The forgiveness of sins. (Romans 6)

        2. All authority is given to Jesus, and he is always with us. (Matthew 28)

        3. Grace.

    B. Our transformation starts with the renewing of our minds. (Romans 12:2)

    C. We will be held accountable for what we do with the Word of God. (2 Corinthians 3:18)

IV. The manner of applying the godly life is diligence.

    A. We are to make every effort. This is not self effort. It is making use of the means we have.

    B. We are to add to our faith.

        1. Faith is the starting point.

        2. The Christian life is not a do it yourself proposition.

        3. Faith is the foundation that is added to.

        4. God expects us to be diligent.

            a. Discipline is not legalism.

b. It does not look for favor with God but does what it is supposed to do. (Romans 7)

c. Watch and pray.

d. There is no such thing as a passive Christian life.

C. What we are to add.

1. Virtue. (Philippians 4:8)

2. Knowledge. (Romans 10)

a. The hope of our calling. (Ephesians 1:18-19)

b. A right sense of values. (Philippians 1:9-10)

c. God's will. (Colossians 1:9)

3. Self-control. (Philippians 4:19)

Application questions:

1. What are some false ways of becoming godly? Explain.
_____
_____

2. What are you doing to grow in your knowledge and experience of God's Word?
_____
_____

3. How would you respond to the claim that "making every effort" is biblical legalism?
_____
_____