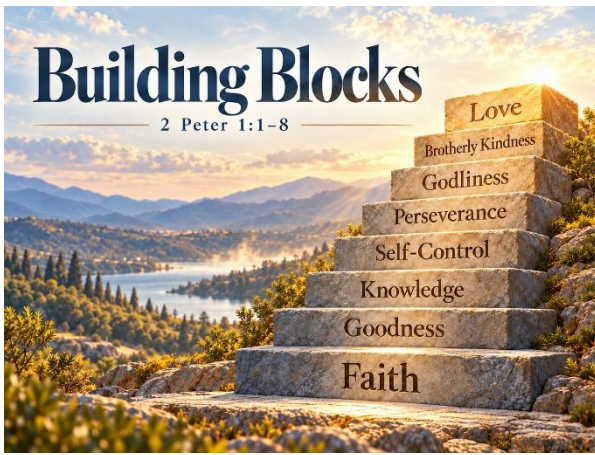




Building Blocks – Part 1

(2 Peter 1:1–8) Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ have received a faith as precious as ours: {2} Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. {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.

Saved by Grace — Growing by Grace

We begin with a faith we did not earn

(2 Peter 1:1a) Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ...

To those who have received a faith

(2 Peter 1:1) Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ have received a faith as precious as ours:

(Ephesians 2:8–9) For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— {9} not by works, so that no one can boast.

An illustration of grace

The faith we receive is precious

Grace and peace come through knowing Christ

(2 Peter 1:2) Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

(John 17:3) Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

God has given us everything we need

(2 Peter 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.

God does not send us into the battle unarmed

(Matthew 28:20b) ...And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

God has given us great and precious promises

(2 Peter 1:4a) Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises...

When feelings disappear

(Hebrews 13:5b) ... “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.”

(Romans 8:1) Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,

(Romans 8:28) And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Grace changes our relationship to sin

(2 Peter 1:4b) ...so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

(2 Corinthians 5:17) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

A transition

(2 Peter 1:5a) For this very reason, make every effort...

The difference between earning and responding

(1 John 3:1a) How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!...

Grace comes before effort

(Ephesians 2:8–9) For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— {9} not by works, so that no one can boast.

(Ephesians 2:10) For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Make every effort

(1 Timothy 4:7b) ...train yourself to be godly.

(Hebrews 12:14a) Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy...

(1 Corinthians 9:24b) ...Run in such a way as to get the prize.

(Philippians 3:14) I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

God works, therefore we work

(Philippians 2:12–13) Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, {13} for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.

(1 Corinthians 15:10) But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.

The sailor and the wind

Why does Peter say “add”?

(2 Peter 1:5) For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith...