

ADD TO YOUR FAITH...KNOWLEDGE

Last week, we looked at **2 Peter 1:5-11** and the Lord's command for us to grow spiritually. We also considered virtue, the wonderful character trait which we need to add to our faith that saves us. A failure to add virtue and the other qualities will cause us to spiritually die.

We must also give all diligence (make every effort!) to add knowledge to our faith. Of course, we have some knowledge that causes us to have the faith pleasing to God and strong enough to save us. This faith is by hearing God's word (**Romans 10:17**). Then after we become Christians, we are told to *desire the pure milk of the word that we might grow by it.* (**1 Peter 2:2**)

Peter tells us to make every effort to add knowledge to our faith. This is in harmony with the command of Jesus to teach all nations (make disciples), baptize them, then *teaching them all that I commanded you.* (**Matthew 28:19-20**) Most of our learning comes after baptism, not before baptism.

We should be as were the Jews of Berea who searched the scriptures daily (**Acts 17:11**). We should not take someone's word as gospel, because there are false teachers (**Galatians 1:6-9**). We have a responsibility to test those who claim to have the truth (**1 John 4:1**) and avoid those who do not (**2 John 9-11**).

If we do not study God's word, we will starve and die spiritually. God said in **Hosea 4:6**, *"My people are destroyed from a lack of knowledge."*

As Jesus said, we should *"take heed **how** you hear."* Not only should we study the word of God as our spiritual food; we should systematically study *all* of His word to get a well-balanced spiritual diet. Paul said in **Acts 20:27**, he declared the whole counsel of God. Work hard to add knowledge to your faith.