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## A Useful Tool 2 Peter 1:1-15 Pastor Kirk Gambrell

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### Using This Study

#### ❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

#### ❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

#### ❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



This week we will start a study on 2 Peter. The book of 2 Peter has some very important passages in it for our Christian theology. It talks about where Scripture has come from and how to be on guard against false prophets. This week in the first part of chapter 1 we will see how Peter stirs up his audience to reflect the characteristics of God. We will also consider the benefits of living with these characteristics of God. We know that salvation does not come from morality; it comes from faith in Christ. But in the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter of 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter we see the benefits and usefulness of living out a Godly life. Join us this week as we seek to know how we can maximize our usefulness in the Kingdom of God.

## 2 Peter 1:1-15 (NASB)

### Growth in Christian Virtue

**1** Simon Peter, a bond-servant and apostle of Jesus Christ,

To those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours, by the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ: <sup>2</sup>Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; <sup>3</sup>seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. <sup>4</sup>For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of *the* divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust. <sup>5</sup>Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in *your* moral excellence, knowledge, <sup>6</sup>and in *your* knowledge, self-control, and in *your* self-control, perseverance, and in *your* perseverance, godliness, <sup>7</sup>and in *your* godliness, brotherly kindness, and

in *your* brotherly kindness, love. <sup>8</sup>For if these *qualities* are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>For he who lacks these *qualities* is blind *or* short-sighted, having forgotten *his* purification from his former sins. <sup>10</sup>Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble; <sup>11</sup>for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, I will always be ready to remind you of these things, even though you *already* know *them*, and have been established in the truth which is present with *you*. <sup>13</sup>I consider it right, as long as I am in this *earthly* dwelling, to stir you up by way of reminder, <sup>14</sup>knowing that the laying aside of my *earthly* dwelling is imminent, as also our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me. <sup>15</sup>And I will also be diligent that at any time after my departure you will be able to call these things to mind.

V **EXAMINE His Word (Observation)** (For personal preparation)

**What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passage.**

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.
4. Is there anything repeated?
5. What is emphasized?
6. Is there anything in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?
7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

**2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation)** (For Community Group discussion)  
**What does God MEAN?**

8. Who is Peter writing to?

9. How do we receive His magnificent promises and become partakers of the divine nature?  
(verse 3,4)

10. What does it mean to be a partaker of the divine nature as said in verse 4?

11. What characteristics are listed to go with moral excellence?

12. What are the qualities listed in verses 5, 6, and 7. How are they a benefit?

13. What is Peter's earthly dwelling?

**③ EMBRACE His Word (Application)** (For Community Group discussion)  
Why does this MATTER to me?

14. Why is it important to remember our purification or cleansing from past sins?

15. Why does Peter see it as good to stir people up and remind them of how they should live?  
Should we do that for each other? Are there positives and negatives of us stirring people up?

16. Is there a benefit of having the mindset of Peter that this body is only an earthly dwelling?  
What are some of the benefits? How will they affect our lives?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

**Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...**

*Sermon Notes*