

2 Peter 3:18

But **grow** in the **grace** and **knowledge**
of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
To Him be glory both now and forever!
Amen.

Do you have **faith** in Christ?

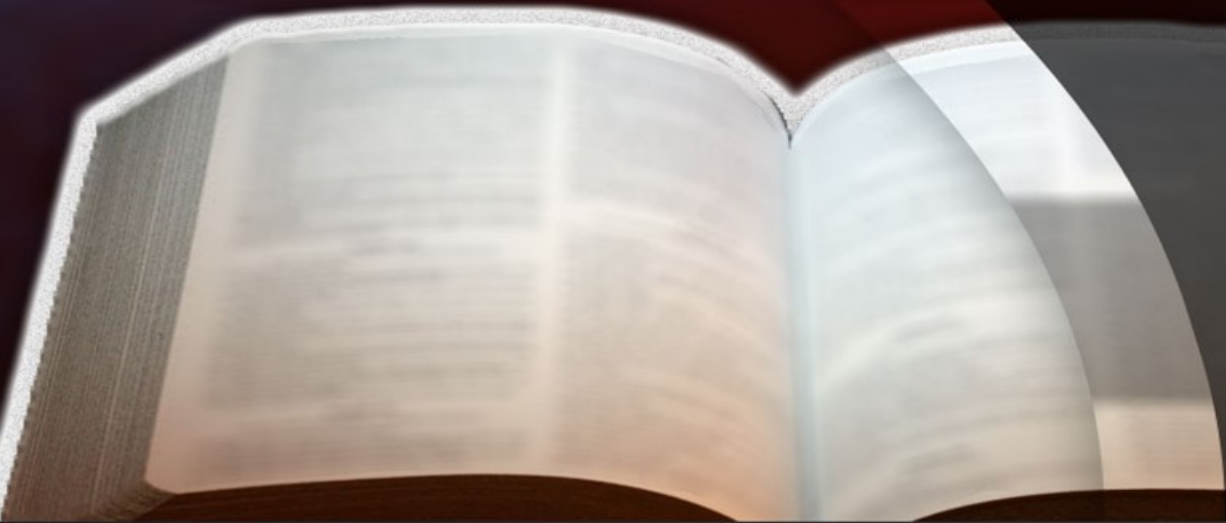
Do you **love** Christ?

Are you practicing agape love?

How do you know if you have made
the right choices?

What motivates you as a Christian
to make the right choices?

I Need Jesus



Learning Objectives

Clarity comes from the Word of God and prayer.

Joy is found in keeping Christ's command to **love** unconditionally (Agape love).

Jesus provides **spiritual possessions** that are crucial to spiritual maturity and discipleship.

Psalm 14:1-3

1The fool hath said in his heart, **There is no God**. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.

2The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and **seek God**.

3They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is **none that doeth good**, no, not one.

The keys to **seeking God** are the Word of God and prayer (spiritual disciplines).

The keys to elevating to **spiritual maturity** are the Word of God and prayer.

Consistently **choosing** these spiritual disciplines brings us closer to God.

What three spiritual possessions activates the spiritual disciplines?

Completeness in Christ will be the result of possessing these three spiritual elements.

Jesus declares these three spiritual possessions in the Gospel of John.



IN TIMES OF TROUBLE,
I STAND ON MY ROCK

FAITH

John 14:1, Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in Me." (The Perfect Person)

Faith must **start** with an object, but it must be placed in a trustworthy object. The Bible declares the **Lord Jesus Christ** as the true object of faith

Acts 20:21 Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, **repentance** toward God, and **faith** toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

Faith must **start** with an object, but it must be placed in a trustworthy object. The Bible declares the **Lord Jesus Christ** as the true object of **faith**.

Hebrews 12:2 keeping our eyes on **Jesus**, the **source** and **perfecter** of our **faith**, ...

Hebrews 11:6

And without faith (**Jesus**) it is **impossible** to please Him, for whoever would **draw near** to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who **seek Him**.

What is the second spiritual possession?

A photograph of a vast, calm blue ocean under a clear blue sky with light, wispy clouds. The word "LOVE" is written in the center of the image in a bold, yellow, stylized font with a slight shadow effect.

LOVE

I LOVE YOU

As the Father has loved Me, so have I loved you. Now remain in My love. (John 15:9)

I love God because God first loved me.

Agape: (Pronounced: a – GAH – pay) 1. Type: **Divine Love** 2. Kind: **ATTENTION** 3. Says: “I commit to you.” This is godly Christian love that is the strongest of all loves. **This is the only love that gives and forgives.** This love says “I love you because I **choose** to love you.” This is the love that the Bible says God has for us and we should have for God.

The third spiritual possession we need is:

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Obedience

John 14:15-16

15 "If you love Me, you will keep My commands. 16 And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever.

And it is this **obedience** that empowers the effectual **prayer** of the righteous.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ was God's stamp of approval on the mission and message of Jesus.

His death was proof of His **obedience**.

His resurrection was proof of the power of **obedience**.

What motivates you as a Christian to make the right choices?

How do you know if you have made the right choices?

Love motivates you as a Christian to make the right choices?

Faith assures you that you have made the right choices?

Obedience is the direct result of **faith** and **love**.

Obedience is the proof of our **Faith**:

James 2:17 – Faith without works is dead. God wants us to obey Jesus' commands. This is called "**works of obedience.**"

Obedience is the proof of our **Love**:

John 21:15-17 – Three times Jesus asked Peter, “Do you love me?” Jesus only asked Peter about his love.

Therefore, He was telling Peter **prove your love by obeying me**. Feed my sheep. Our obedience to Christ’s commands is proof of our love for Christ.

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of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
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Amen.

Never forget that **Jesus**, the only **Perfect Person**, died on the cross for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He rose from the dead on the third day according to the Scriptures. (1 Cor. 15:34)

I Need Jesus

