

McCoy Memorial Baptist Church

Date: July 19, 2020

Title: "Be All that You Can Be!" (Part 1)

Text: 2 Peter 1:3-15

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. There is a lot of rejoicing when a new baby is born. But what happens if that baby does not grow as expected? What happens if their mental and/or motor skills do not develop normally?
2. The same could be said of Christians who do not grow or stop growing spiritually. Are you a changing & growing Christian? "Change & growth" is an expectation, even a command.
3. A cynic once described the Christian life as "an initial spasm followed by chronic inertia." Brothers and sisters, this ought not be!
4. Second Peter 1:3-15 is one of the most important passages in the NT on the subject of Christian change and growth, but it is often overlooked or neglected.

#### GROUND RULES:

1. This is a series about \_\_\_\_\_, not \_\_\_\_\_.  
James MacDonald, I Really Want to Change ... So, Help Me God!
2. This is a series about change according to God's Word, the Bible, not about \_\_\_\_\_.
3. This is a series about \_\_\_\_\_ changing, not \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Change is \_\_\_\_\_; it's God's \_\_\_\_\_ for our lives.

#### \_\_\_\_\_ FOR GROWTH ARE PROVIDED (vv. 3, 4)

In verse 3a Peter wrote: "His divine power has given us everything we need for life & godliness." God has provided all the resources that are necessary!

1. Several points to note:
  - A. They come from "his divine power".
  - B. "Has given" emphasizes \_\_\_\_\_.
  - C. God's provisions are \_\_\_\_\_ in nature.

2. Where are these resources found?

A. In Jesus Christ, the \_\_\_\_\_ Word (v. 3)

- 1) A new nature; a new creation (2 Cor. 5:17)
- 2) Our union with Christ in His death & resurrection (Rom. 6)
- 3) Another "Helper" (Counselor). See John 14:15-18.
- 4) Christ's church on earth (Heb. 10:25-26)

B. In the Scriptures, the \_\_\_\_\_ Word (4)

Through his great and precious promises . . .

- 1) We participate in the divine nature; and so . . .
- 2) We escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires

**\_\_\_\_\_ TO GROW IS REQUIRED (vv. 5-7)**

"For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith. . . ."

1. \_\_\_\_\_ involvement is required.

Scripture: 1 Cor. 9:24-27; 1 Tim. 4:7-8; Phil. 2:12-13

2. A "\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_" between God & the Christian.

"God has made it possible for us to walk in holiness. But He has given us the responsibility of doing the walking; He does not do that for us" (Jerry Bridges, The Pursuit of Holiness).

Christians enjoy talking about the provision of God, how Christ defeated sin on the cross and gave us His Holy Spirit to empower us to victory over sin. But we don't readily talk about our own responsibility to walk in holiness, to be committed to change and growth in our lives.

Two primary reasons can be given for this:

A. We are \_\_\_\_\_ to face up to our responsibility.

We prefer to leave that to God. We pray for victory when we know we should be acting in obedience.

B. We do not \_\_\_\_\_ the proper distinction

between God's provision and our own responsibility for holiness.