



GATEWAY MISSIONS



January 2020

Connecting People, Nations and Continents for the Great Commission

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.” (Galatians 5: 22-23)

Ensuring a Fruitful and Faithful Life*

Jane Ann and I wish you a very Happy New Year and pray you will experience the un-surpassing knowledge of God, the love of Christ our Lord and the Peace of the Holy Spirit. The arrival of every New Year brings opportunities for positive change. As we plunge headlong into this New Year and new decade, we want to share with you a promise found in 2 Peter 1:1-10 (ESV).

The Word of God is divinely inspired and given to us for guidance, inspiration and instruction. In the following verses **eight qualities** are listed for us to cultivate in our minds, hearts and spirits to ensure effective, productive lives in service for Christ and to make sure that we never fall away from our love for Jesus.

We must choose to rely on the Holy Spirit to work His changes in us and cooperate with Him by activating these character qualities each day.

God has given us *“all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us to his own glory and virtue.” (2 Peter 1:3)*

1. Faith. *“Add to your faith . . .” (2 Peter 1:5)*

Faith is the foundation of character because faith is simply believing God and His promises. Do not allow your mind to develop thought patterns of unbelief.

2. Virtue (or goodness). *“Add to your faith virtue . . .” (2 Peter 1:5)*

The meaning of the word virtue is moral excellence.

There should be no difference between what we appear to be in public and who we are in private. Our virtue (or character) is who we are when no one is watching us.

3. Knowledge. *“Add . . . to virtue knowledge” (2 Peter 1:5)*

Jesus said we are to love God with all our heart, soul and mind. (Read Matthew 22:37)

God wants us to keep growing in knowledge and wisdom. (Read Colossians 2:2-3)

We are to become partakers of His divine nature in order to be fruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Read 2 Peter 1:4, 8)

4. Self-control. *“To knowledge... self-control” (2 Peter 1:6)*

Many people today “think” with their emotions which leads to wrong actions or choices.

Through the power of the Holy Spirit we can keep our emotions and actions under control by rejecting/renouncing destructive thought patterns and hostile actions. True meekness, as perfectly displayed by Jesus, is strength under control.

5. Perseverance. *“To self-control... perseverance” (2 Peter 1:6)*

No matter how difficult your circumstances, never, never, never lose your faith! To win the race, we must stay in the race! (Read Hebrews 12:1-7)

6. Godliness. *“To perseverance... godliness” (2 Peter 1:6)*

Godliness is not self-righteousness or legalism. In fact, it is the very opposite. Godliness is a life of dependence on and obedience to the Holy Spirit.

7. Brotherly kindness. *“To godliness... brotherly kindness” (2 Peter 1:7)*

God calls on us to exhibit a quality that people are starved to receive—kindness.

In a world where most people are self-seeking, our kindness will really stand out and be a great testimony for Jesus Christ and a magnet that draws others to Him.

8. Love. *“And to brotherly kindness... love” (2 Peter 1:7)*

Love should be the compelling force behind all ministry. (Read 2 Corinthians 5:1; Galatians 5:6) Love is the greatest of all Christian virtues. The love of God through Christ has been poured out into our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. (Romans 5:5)

“Therefore brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall.” (2 Peter 1:10)

Right now, stop for a moment and make the commitment to invite and allow the Holy Spirit to build these eight character qualities in your life.

Run the race,



Gary and Jane Ann Casey

Great News about Our Matching Challenge

Matching Challenge Update: We've almost reached our goal of \$20,000. With only \$1,500 to go toward fulfilling the goal, the deadline is extended to January 31, 2020. We pray confidently and expectantly to see the Challenge matched and finalized!

Consider and pray about becoming a financial partner with Gateway Missions in 2020. We welcome your partnership and encourage you to come along side us with your prayers, mission gifts, or by going with us to serve and minister in South America this year. Plans are coming together for our first trip in early spring to Cuba to convene our third Pastors Conference. We will be ministering again with Leo and Silvana Grisales and the JUMP Ministry Team.

*Note: Some excerpts taken from Life Book - Volume I, Dr. David Shibley - Global Advance.

Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law. All funds are used for designated projects and for the total ministry of Gateway Missions