

Series: 2 Peter

Sermon: Faithful & Effective

**Passage: 2 Peter 1:1-15 (ESV)**

Illustration: Everyone wants to leave a legacy; wants their lives to matter.

Need: Is it possible for believers to actually remain faithful and effective until Christ's return?

### **I. The Nature of Salvation (1:1)**

- Salvation is the result of the righteous work of Jesus, God the Son, in His death and resurrection.
- All who are saved are saved by faith alone, and all received, as a gift, the same precious faith. (**Gal. 3:28**)

### **II. The Benefits of Salvation (1:2-4)**

- Continued or ongoing abundant grace and peace from God is ours as believers. (**Rom. 5:1-2**)
- By God's divine saving power we receive everything we need for life & godliness. (**Rom. 8:32**)
- We have the precious promises of the OT as well as those from Jesus, connecting us directly to God.
- Those promises are able to keep us from falling into the corruption that surrounds and entices us.

### **III. The Response to Salvation (1:5-9)**

- As a result of what God provides to believers we must strive (make every effort) to add...
  - Virtue = moral excellence over a normal lifetime.
  - Knowledge = increased understanding and application of truth (scripture).
  - Self-Control = "holding oneself in," self-discipline, self-restraint.
  - Steadfastness = perseverance, patience, endurance in doing what is right.
  - Godliness = genuine reverence/adoration for & worship of God.
  - Brotherly Affection = loving one's neighbor as themselves, care and concern for.
  - Love = the most Godly attribute that motivates all others.
- Striving after these qualities will lead to effectiveness and productivity in our calling as believers.
- Failure to strive after these qualities demonstrates our blindness to the new life God has called us to.

### **IV. The Results of Our Response (1:10-11)**

- The avoidance of major spiritual failures is possible by God's grace as we diligently seek to confirm (give evidence to) our salvation (calling and election).
- Future kingdom rewards are reserved for those who diligently pursue a faithful & effective life for Christ.

### **V. Do you want live a faithful and effective life?**

1. A faithful and effective life must begin with salvation that comes as a gift of God's grace to those who by faith alone trust in Jesus the crucified and risen God and Savior.
2. Make a habit of remembering all that is yours from Christ to be His faithful and effective disciples.
3. Make consistent effort to invest in / put to work what has been supplied to you, seeing all that lies ahead.