

How to Undermine Your Faith

Common practices and beliefs that work against what God wants to do in you.

Pastor Craig Sweeney | November 24, 2024

Thread: Undermining my faith is something I am capable of doing.

“Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ... Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith...”

II Peter 1:1 – 5 NIV

Don't grow in your faith.

“...with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love.” **II Peter 1:5 – 7 ESV**

“Virtue” — Moral excellence. A high character person. They are pure of heart, motive.

“Knowledge” — Knowledgeable, gained a great deal of facts and inner understandings of the Kingdom of God and its effects.

“Self-control” — Content, not self-indulgent. Sobered in actions and pursuits.

“Steadfastness” — To bear up under, persevere under pressure and circumstances with a long endurance. Constancy under suffering and duty.

“Godliness” — Well directed reverence, devotion.

“Brotherly affection”, “Philadelphia” — Love specifically for followers of Jesus, the Church.

“Love”, “Agape” — Good will toward your neighbor.

Reflection: What quality of your character needs growth?

Don't allow the Holy Spirit to empower you to grow.

“For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Therefore I intend always to remind you of these qualities, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to stir you up by way of reminder, since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me. And I will make every effort so that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things.”

II Peter 1:8 – 15 ESV

Challenge:

- Are you undermining your faith?
- What quality of your character needs growth? Where will you begin?
- Will you allow the Holy Spirit to help you?

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