

Acts 2:44-47 (NIV)

⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

“Love for brethren entails bearing one another’s burdens, and so fulfilling the law of Christ; it means guarding that Spirit-given unity from destruction by gossip, prejudice, narrowness, and the refusal to accept a brother Christian for what he is in Christ.”

- Tyndale Commentary

Practical Take-Away’s

Godliness: Living a life of true _____, _____ before God, and _____ Him well with our whole lives!

Mutual Affection: _____ brothers and sisters in Christ, as Christ first loved us, so that the world may see His love in us.

Rise Above

“No longer ineffective and unproductive”

HOPE CHURCH

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Nick Ristow

2 Peter 1:3-11

³ 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. ⁴ 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. ⁵ For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; ⁶ and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, **godliness; ⁷ and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love.** ⁸ **For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.** ⁹ But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins. ¹⁰ Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble, ¹¹ and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Godliness:

The word that Peter uses for “godliness” in the greek language is _____.

“Godliness” can understood a few different ways in this passage.

1. _____

James 1:27 (NIV)

Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

2. _____

Hosea 6:6 (NLT)

*I want you to show love, not offer sacrifices.
I want you to know me more than I want burnt offerings.*

3. _____

Romans 12:1 (NIV)

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

“There’s no greater lifestyle and no greater happiness than that of having a continual _____ with God.”

“It is not necessary to have great things to do. I turn my little _____ in the pan for the love of God.”

– Brother Lawrence

Mutual Affection:

Philadelphia: _____ of the _____.

John 13:34-35 (NIV)

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

1 John 4:20 (NIV)

Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen.