

Regional Staff Conference - Manuscript Bible Study

2 Pe 1:3-15 NIV

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. ¹² So I will always remind you of these things, even though you know them and are firmly established in the truth you now have. ¹³ I think it is right to refresh your memory as long as I live in the tent of this body, ¹⁴ because I know that I will soon put it aside, as our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me. ¹⁵ And I will make every effort to see that after my departure you will always be able to remember these things.

Application - In light of current pain over racial injustice on campus/in community OR in light of deep divisions and people talking past one another, what is one way you/we can “make every effort” to “confirm our calling” and “add to our faith?”

Just find your name in your small group and add your thought...

Group name	Application insight
Diane Tyndall	<p>Linda-remember, to add to these in growing measure: faith, goodness, knowledge, self-control</p> <p>Don Paul-I need to rehearse/remember who I am and who God is, and who He has invited me to be in this time and place.</p> <p>Jacob-Refuse to let other narratives usurp the one I am called to remember and to live in — to let mutual affection flow from my forgiveness, and not from self-righteousness or some other source.</p> <p>Gordon-</p> <p>Butch-</p> <p>Diane-I need to remember that we are established in the faith through God Himself and reiterate that narrative within community when pain and injustice seem to shake foundations.</p>
Felicia Anderson	<p>Emmanuel- Holding on to the precious promises of God by exercising love, grace, and perseverance daily!</p> <p>Elizabeth-Reflecting on the fruit Peter lists, I realize how we are called to persevere in our labor for the Kingdom, which includes advocating for justice and mercy even when exhausting; also, mutual affection is cultivated as fruit, requires my active effort and prayer especially with people I disagree with on issues close to my heart</p> <p>Jim-Showing God’s love and humility to those around us.</p> <p>Mark- remind myself and others of the grace and knowledge of God in our lives and history as a starting point; recalling that we are to bring into the light what is true and to forgive as Christ forgave us (at the appropriate season); recalling God’s forgiveness in my life enables me to admit my own shortcomings</p> <p>George-</p> <p>Cheryl-Jesus will be seen as we “make every effort” to listen,learn, love, acknowledge. Healing can happen</p> <p>Tim- I need to put forth a bigger more loving effort to learn what it means to Lament - like Soong-Chan Rah was challenging us to do. I need to work harder at making better cross-cultural ministry partnerships. Cheryl and I need to keep teaming up with Christians in North Omaha and seeking to address needs together.</p> <p>Felicia-provide information and encouragement to those who need help navigating in these troubling times and reminding them of the promises and hope they have in Jesus, who will give them strength to endure.</p>
Gary & Marlene	<p>Fred-Be sure that I am always Be Reminded,Be Refresh and</p>

Cameron	<p>Remember. The need to live out of an abiding relationship with Christ rather than our human effort alone! .</p> <p>Josh- Take the time to listen to the stories of students/faculty/friends/co-workers and to hear how they are feeling the divisions around us. And then cooperate in sharing their voices.</p> <p>Will - I need to make more space to remember that my calling is to participate in His nature</p> <p>Deborah-Listen and keep calling, texting, pursuing. Don't have to share my feelings. . love wins.Praying together.</p> <p>Gary-Participating in God intentionally, will transform me for the sake of others</p> <p>Marlene-</p>
Glenn Goldsmith	<p>Marcia- Listen, advocate, teach, help others be heard, offer and model forgiveness on behalf of my ethnic community, correct when need be, ask for forgiveness when need be</p> <p>Mary- Invite others to the table and listen to them</p> <p>Kevin-</p> <p>Leon-</p> <p>Bobby-</p> <p>Mark-Put myself in the other person's shoes; see their experience from their perspective and affirm it.</p> <p>Glenn-use self-control, perseverance and mutual affection in relationships with brothers and sisters with whom we have disagreement and different perspectives; do so as an act of faith;</p>
Karen Guzman	<p>Hank-</p> <p>Julie-process the pain and concerns with my spiritual director in light of my calling to campus</p> <p>Allison-</p> <p>Tom-</p> <p>Denise-</p> <p>Karen-Make every effort to add...self- control and perseverance. I find these days I am easily irritated with those whose views I find deplorable and it's hard to stay engaged.</p>
Michael Moriarty	<p>Laura-Pray daily, asking God to show me/us concrete ways to act faithfully in light of division, brokenness over racial injustice</p> <p>Arthur- Remind ourselves and others about "the knowledge of Jesus Christ" so that we wont stumble. Keep reminding it every days and hours in our life. → Keep Christ central in every our conversations about injustice or pain or divisions.</p> <p>Cristina-Keep these qualities present when we are thinking of who we vote into office. Remember to spend time with God and ask him "How am I doing in this process of spiritual formation? Show me areas of growth that I can focus on in the next quarter."</p> <p>Andy-</p> <p>Carrie-Don't give yourself the option to look away:: persevere</p> <p>Michael-Grow to understand and apply 2Pet.1:3-15: making every effort to appropriate these virtues , so that they become</p>

	part and parcel of who I am and encourage my students in this direction. Study and apply.
Steve Hinkle	<p>Stephanie- to not stop at mere knowledge about racial injustice</p> <p>Loan-</p> <p>George-</p> <p>Brian-</p> <p>Debra-</p> <p>Steve-Commit to love for those in the body of Christ with whom I have serious disagreements. Hold no one in contempt or disdain. And to persevere in learning and to putting learning into practice</p>
Tim Wang	<p>Paula--"Make every effort makes me think to set some actual goals for my growth in this journey...stretch myself. I'd like to read more and continue leaning in to BSAP at W&M</p> <p>George Work together earnestly on these things, not by myself.</p> <p>Cynthia - remember, remember, remember</p> <p>review and always have in mind what God has already done</p> <p>look for and expect these great gifts to be added to my faith</p> <p>my forgiveness, salvation</p> <p>- goodness, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, mutual affection</p> <p>Kevin</p> <p>Allyn--practice the presence of Christ in my life, so I might become useful to His kingdom</p> <p>Rich</p> <p>Tim- I am recognizing that the need for "perseverance" (v.6) is necessary in the conversation and work on racial justice. It's so easy for me to feel overwhelmed and quickly "give up" and "give in". Many acknowledge the reality of being disappointed bc we have engaged for a season, but then turned away. Perseverance requires spiritual formation of rest and retreat. I'm thinking of moving deeper in spiritual direction, counseling and regular retreats.</p>

Breakout 2 - Interpretation: what does it mean?

Please just work on the question assigned to your group. Each question has been given to two groups. Discuss it, then summarize your answer in your group's box.

Group name	Question	Insight we learned...
Diane Tyndall	Peter points out the lavish resources and rewards offered through God's glory and goodness. Why does he also emphasize the effort we're to put	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are intended to participate in the divine nature, so we make an effort as we remember. We are not just passive. • Make every effort is throughout the passage — v. 5, 10, and 15. • Making an effort to remember means

	forward? What does “make every effort” mean?	rehearsing the narrative through regular worship, liturgy, refreshing the metanarrative we participate in.
Felicia Anderson		Because we are by nature forgetful, Peter reminds us to make every effort, not to earn our salvation, but to be fruitful. For we are designed and called to be workers for the Kingdom and good stewards of the gifts we’ve been given.
Gary & Marlene Cameron	What formation process is Peter talking about in vv5-8? What does it mean to add goodness, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, etc.. to our faith?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We add all these things to our faith so that we can “participate in the divine nature”. Peter is saying it is “for this purpose” (v5): to be able participate in the divine nature. - Faith is our foundation and then these are things we building upon - “Making every effort” - involves actual work that we need to do. It is our responsibility. Peter is giving us an imperative
Glenn Goldsmith		
Karen Guzman	There are at least ten references to knowledge, knowing or remembering. What exactly are we supposed to know, and what is at stake if we miss it or forget it?	We are supposed to know our Lord Jesus Christ and remember what we know, living into that knowledge. If we forget, we risk being ineffective and unproductive, being blind to our true self in Christ.
Michael Moriarty		
Steve Hinkle	Is Peter saying that the point of our faith is to avoid the world’s corruption (v4) and go to heaven when we die (11)? If not, why not? What hope is there in this passage for God’s people doing mission here and now?	The passage seems to be about who we know to be more than what we know to do. It’s a “yes, and” situation: now and later. Against the grain of the culture, God provides for our journey. Knowledge alone is not enough. NT Wright :)
Tim Wang		<p>emphasis on now, equipping</p> <p>not clear he is talking about future world to come, but living out promises now</p> <p>idea of participating in divine nature - hope for mission now</p> <p>reality we can experience God for who he is here on earth, characteristics we can live in, use, cultivate their virtues</p> <p>grace facilitates our every effort</p>

		<p>“every” “all” “always” “very great and precious promises” stated strongly, repeated not clear - Kingdom now or future tense</p>
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Breakout 1 - Observation: what does it say?

What do you see in the first paragraph? vv1-9

Group name	Caption	Observations
Diane Tyndall		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What does it mean that God called us “by his glory and goodness?” Purpose? Means? “He has given us everything we need” <i>and</i> it is in increasing measure. Emphasis on being ineffective and unproductive. If there is an intentional order, it is interesting that it ends with love.
Felicia Anderson	We Have Enough; Fruitful in the Knowledge	Scaffolding structure v5-7 (adding on), or a ladder or building with faith as foundation, love as roof; v3 & 8 - godly life and productive life link to knowledge; God has given us enough but we’re blind if we don’t utilize it; God gives what we need & his promises, and he calls us; promises allow us to participate in divine nature and escape corruption; shift in 5 from what God has done to what we must do therefore (indicative to imperative) - God’s action enables ours; connection between God’s goodness and ours; knowledge=repeated theme word
Gary & Marlene Cameron	Effective and Fruitful Power by Knowing Him	Struck by “great and precious promises” (v4) “Make every effort” repeated (v5, 10, 15) His divine power, His divine nature (v3, v4). It’s about what He is doing, His character “Knowledge of him” (v3) and “knowledge of Lord Jesus”, repetition (v8).
Glenn Goldsmith		It’s a virtues list (without vices list). Implicit basket of gifts. Promises, etc. “mutual affection” = reciprocal. “Knowledge” used 3x. “Call.”

		<p>“participate in divine nature.” Blind, forgetful if don’t have them. Act on the virtues so won’t stumble. “Remind” is key theme.</p>
Karen Guzmán	Recipe for a godly life	<p>2 “has given us”; divine power & divine nature; us/our/we pronouns; “make every effort”; He has given us everything we need related to His glory and goodness; 1 command v. 5; contrast of obedience/disobedience; reflective of “fruit of the spirit; “participate in the divine nature” intriguing phrase; conjunctions for, therefor, but, so beginning sentences; 4 “knowledge” references; vv. 5-7 like a recipe (like fruit of the spirit) adding each virtue to the other; Lord Jesus Christ 3xs; “make every effort” repeats 3xs (v. 5, 10, 15 -- in command form in 5 & 10); connection between participating in the divine nature and welcome into the eternal kingdom</p>
Michael Moriarty	Everything is given & we respond	<p><u>Observations</u> *vv. 3-9: *What's been given: everything we need for godly life; precious promises; divine nature--we can participate in it...We get all this through our knowledge of Him</p> <p>Key words: knowledge, perseverance, self-control, mutual affection, godliness, goodness;</p> <p>contrast between forgetting/blindness and [remembering via being reminded/productivity....</p> <p>God's work and human responsibility: MAKE EVERY EFFORT....idea of increase--adding, increasing--effort required</p> <p>*Knowledge of Him/our Lord Jesus Christ Degrees of not having these qualities--near-sightedness to blindness *Goal is to be effective & productive; this will happen if we possess/gain in these qualities</p> <p>Peter’s exhortation: confirm your calling/make every effort; P. reminds--concern about forgetting Results: making every effort=never stumble, receive rich welcome 2 things: remember, make every effort [progression]</p>

		<p>1--What are we supposed to know? God, character of Jesus--not a static knowledge--continual process of growth</p> <p>2--What's at stake if we miss/forget it? Productivity, effectiveness</p>
Steve Hinkle	Remembering God's Abundance	<p>Given us, very great/everything, "possessing these qualities is in contrast with being ineffective, nearsighted and blind", if/then -- it's not about qualifying us for eternal life but about being fruitful. Wow - that connection between knowledge and mutual love <3 Being ineffective has to do with not forgetting instead of remembering. "Every effort" "Remember, remind, refresh"</p> <p>Questions: What does it mean to make every effort to confirm your calling/election?</p>
Tim Wang		
Kevin	Perseverance is a need. I need to find strength in partnership with others in the struggle.	lots of "us" and

What do you see in the second paragraph? vv 10-15

Group name	Caption	Observations
Diane Tyndall		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasis on memory reminds us of the memorials from the rest of Scripture. • Remembering seems to connect with forgetting in v. 9 • Confirming one's election is linked with escaping sin.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Never stumble? Like ever? • Is Peter putting aside his body? The tend of the body? • “Confirm” refers to a real process, regardless of your view of salvation
Felicia Anderson	Don't Forget	V10 emphasize again make every effort; prevents us from stumbling; all the prior actions confirm our calling and election; importance of being reminded even though we know; Peter also makes every effort
Gary & Marlene Cameron	Remind, Refresh, Remember	A lot of “I will”, “you will”- future talk repeated Remind, refresh, remember (v12,v13, v15)
Glenn Goldsmith		
Karen Guzman		
Michael Moriarty		
Steve Hinkle		
Tim Wang		<p>Paula- given us everything we need, very great and precious promises, completed in past tense make effort to add to our faith - how do we do that? remember - so important</p> <p>George- greatness, importance, we want to grasp it always (v 12, 15) practical implications - could be ineffective, unproductive as long as - same sense as always never - end of verse 10 opposite of always</p> <p>Cynthia- great list of gifts even after departed - will make every effort to help us</p>

		<p>Kevin- emphasis on plural - “us” and “our” participate in divine nature remember - frequent command make every effort - again “these things” repeated (what things?)</p> <p>Allyn-make every effort to add but if don’t have them - are nearsighted and blind, forgotten you are cleansed from past sins</p> <p>Rich - actively reminding, encouraging, discipling his followers</p> <p>Tim- gifts build on each other v 8 and 9 - emphasis on knowledge then sight, memory connected to qualities that will increase refresh your memory</p>
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