

# Christian Personality Milestones

*“For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self control; and to self control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. 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. But if anyone does not have them, he is short-sighted and blind, and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his sins” (2 Peter 1:5-9).*

In facing the threats of this world, the globalization and materialism and all type of corruption, and for dealing with varied types of trials and hardships, and for facing the dangers of false teaching and false doctrines, and for making our election sure while we are waiting patiently for the Second Coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ to judge the whole world: Christians need to be armed by skills that enable them to stand firm; skills that protecting them from backsliding and swaying from the right way, and to be ready to deal with different standards.

Peter in his letter to a group of Christian believers who were persecuted, and oppressed by a group of false religions and beliefs, and tempted by a group of lawless men, he provided them with a safety key to sail in the raging world. He emphasized to them two facts that God has acted but man must cooperate, and both these facts are essential.

To make us able to escape the degradation and the dissolution of this world, and be worthy of His grace, and to enable us to approach the stage of wholesome thinking and wholesome living, God through the above passage outlines the milestones for the Christian’s soul development and the booming of his personality. And these milestones are:

**1- Faith:** The full trust in God, the unseen, in fulfilling all his promises to us. Putting in mind that God’s time scale differs from our scale. *“Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of we do not see.” (Hebrews 11:1)* And to faith add,

**2- Goodness:** Which is the moral uprightness, that ultimately leads to fruitful, productive, beneficial and high quality life in the entire situation irrespective to the people and circumstances around us. And to goodness add,

**3- Knowledge:** Not only in the fields of our professions, but to equal importance in the word of God that comes from the continuous reading of the Bible, careful study of the scriptures, and measure any interpretation of the passages in accordance to the whole word of God. For all the scriptures are the words of God and comes out of his mouth. And when we apply that knowledge in our life in accordance to our faith in Him we will have the wisdom. *“For the Lord gives wisdom, and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.” (Proverbs 2:6)* And to knowledge add,

**4- Self-control:** Which is to live away from profligate life and away from any evil and immoral desire, to avoid the fall into the fatal sins of lust, greed, laziness, pride, anger, jealousy, and envy. *“Make level*

*paths for your feet and take only ways that are firm. Do not swerve to the right or the left, keep your foot from evil.” (Proverbs 4:26-27)* And to self-control add,

**5- Perseverance:** To be steadfast in maintaining the same righteous style of living in facing difficult times and in the trials; to wait patiently for his appointments and not for the disappointments. *“Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.” (James 1:2-4)* And to perseverance add,

**6-Godliness:** Which is the ability to differentiate the right and the wrong in the eyes of God and to live in a godly way of living, and away from the wrong ways. And this is the attitude of God-fearing man. And to Godliness add,

**7- Brotherly kindness:** Which is the empathetic sharing of one another’s burdens and needs? *“Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ.” (Galatians 6:2)* And to brotherly kindness add,

**8- Love:** Love is the crown of them all which is giving first, emotional second. And love not only to the worthy one, but also to the unworthy and even extend to our enemies. *“Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law.” (Romans 13:8)*

It is right to memorize all these skills, and after the above description we can review ourselves and find where we are from the above milestones, and what we still lack from above. Obtaining the above characters makes you a productive person and a dynamic member in the body of Christ, and mutates you to a light for the darkness that surrounds you. For gaining these ingredients with increase measure and fostering them will transform you to be more like Jesus and to be a perfect example of Christianity. And you will show Christ to others, for they cannot see Him alone but they will see Him through you.

But if you are not having the above marks and characters and you are not working to obtain it, you are not only blind but in the midst of darkness as well, and you cling to Christ only by name. *“You forgot that you have been cleansed from your past sins”* as Bible said.

**My Dear and Beloved:** In conclusion to all above, let us read these two scriptures: *“Therefore, my brothers, be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never fall, and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ.” (2 Peter 1:11-12)* *“Therefore, dear friends, since you already know this, be on your guard so that you may not carried away by the error of the lawless men and fall from your secure position. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.” (2 Peter 3:17-18)* Now pray to God to equip to do his will. .

**My Prayer:** *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord I commit my life into your hand. Lord I repent from the following sins \_\_\_\_\_.* *Lord increase my faith in you and give me more of these characters; knowledge of your word, goodness, self-control, patience, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness and love, this all I ask and pray in Jesus name, Amen.*