

**Free from Sin to Grow in Grace  
Session 20 Handout**

*Preoccupation with Jesus increases Passion for Him.*

*Passion for Him brings us to greater Pursuit of Him*

*Pursuit brings us to walking in unity with His Pace for His Purpose.*

*Pace & Purpose brings us into the experiential reality of being in His Pleasure.*

**Philippians 3:12-14 AMP**

**12** Not that I have now attained [this ideal], or have already been made perfect, but I press on to lay hold of (grasp) and make my own, that for which Christ Jesus (the Messiah) has laid hold of me and made me His own. **13** I do not consider, brethren, that I have captured and made it my own [yet]; but one thing I do [it is my one aspiration]: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, **14** I press on toward the goal to win the [supreme and heavenly] prize to which God in Christ Jesus is calling us upward.

Has Jesus laid hold of you and made you His own?

Have you yielded to His “laying ahold of you,” or have you resisted Him?

“Paul simply yielded to the grasp. But ‘I may lay hold of’ conveys the idea of personal effort; and so these two expressions, ‘I was apprehended,’ and ‘I apprehend,’ suggest this consideration, that, for the initial blessings of the Christian life, forgiveness, acceptance, the sense of God’s favor, and of reconciliation with him, nothing is needed but the simple faith that yields itself altogether to the grasp of Christ’s hand, but that for my possessing what Christ means that I should possess when He lays His hand on me, there is needed not only faith but effort. I have to put out my hand and tighten my fingers round the thing, if I would make it my own, and keep it.

So--faith, to begin with, and work based on faith, to go on with. It is because a man is sure that Jesus Christ has laid His hand upon him, and meant something when He did it, that he fights on with all his might to realize Christ’s purpose, and to get and keep the thing which Christ meant him to have. There is stimulus in the thought, I was laid hold of by Him for a purpose.

And if that be so, then the nature of the thing to be laid hold of determines what we are to do to lay hold of it. And since to know Christ, and the power of His Resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, is the aim and end of our conversion, the way to secure it must be keeping in continual touch with Jesus by meditating upon Him, by holding many a moment of still, sacred, sweet communion with Him, by carefully avoiding whatever might come between us and our knowledge of Him, and the influx of His life into us, and by yielding ourselves, day by day, to the continual influence of His divine grace upon us and by the discipline which shall make our inward natures more and more capable of receiving more and more of that dear Lord. These being the things to do, in regard to the inward life, there must be effort too, in regard to the outward; for we must, if we are to lay hold of that for which we are laid hold of by Jesus Christ, bring all the outward life under the dominion of this inward impulse, and when the flood pours into our hearts we must guide it into every corner of the field, that all may be irrigated. Flood your lives with Christ, and then sow the seed and you will get a crop.”

– John MacLaren

**2 Peter 3:1-2, 10a-12a, 14, 17-18 TPT**

**Beloved friends, this is now the second letter I have written to you in which I've attempted to stir you up and awaken you to a proper mind-set. 2 So never forget both the prophecies spoken by the holy prophets of old and the teaching of our Lord and Savior spoken by your apostles.**

**10 The day of the Lord will come and take everyone by surprise—as unexpected as a home invasion.**

**11 Since all these things are on the verge of being dismantled, don't you see how vital it is to live a holy life? We must be consumed with godliness 12 while we anticipate and help to speed up the coming of the day of God**

**14 So, my beloved friends, with all that you have to look forward to, may you be eager to be found living pure lives when you come into his presence, without blemish and filled with peace.**

**17 As for you, divinely loved ones, since you are forewarned of these things, be careful that you are not led astray by the error of the lawless and lose your firm grip on the truth. 18 But continue to grow and increase in God's grace and intimacy with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. May he receive all the glory both now and until the day eternity begins. Amen!**

Peter is nearing the end of his race as he writes this letter. It is important that we see it that way and weigh his words as a man who is cutting through the fluff to get to the meat and “real” truth that we need.

1. *Versø 2* - Peter charges us to “\_\_\_\_\_” and “\_\_\_\_\_”

**Stir up** – G1326 – *diegeiro* – to wake up, arouse; to arouse the \_\_\_\_\_; stir up to render \_\_\_\_\_; to wake \_\_\_\_\_. The root word is the idea of collecting one's faculties

2. *Versø II* - Peter urges us to endeavor to live a \_\_\_\_\_ and become consumed with \_\_\_\_\_.

A set apart life – a life that is set apart \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ & set apart \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_

3. *Versø 14* – Peter exhorts us to be \_\_\_\_\_ (eager) to be found living \_\_\_\_\_ lives

NKJV says: **Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless.**

**Diligent** – G4704 – *spoudazo* – to hasten, make haste, to exert oneself, endeavor, give diligence. To use speed, i.e. to make effort, be prompt or earnest. Do (give) diligence, be diligent, endeavor, labor, study. The root word is G4710 – *spoude* – with haste, earnestness in accomplishing, promoting, or striving after anything.

**Spot** – G784 – *aspilos* – from *alpha* G1 (as a negative particle) and *spiloo* G4695 – spotless, metaphorically free from censure, irreproachable, free from vice, unsullied. Unblemished (physically or morally), without spot, unpotted

G4695 *spiloo* – to defile, stain, soil. From the root word G4696 *spilos* meaning spot, a fault, moral blemish, defect, disgrace

**Blameless** – G298 – *amomentos* – that cannot be censured, blameless, without rebuke, unblameable. The root word G3469 – *momaomai* – to blame, find fault with, mock at

4. **Versø 17** – Peter warns us to \_\_\_\_\_ and forewarned not to be \_\_\_\_\_  
or \_\_\_\_\_ from the \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_

**Beware** – G5442 – *phyllasso* - to guard, keep watch, keep an eye upon, to protect from being snatched away, to guard from being lost or perishing, take care not to violate

**Led astray** – G4879 – *synapago* – to lead away with or together, to take off together, i.e. to transport with (seduce, passively, yield), to yield or submit one's self to lowly things, conditions, employments.

**Error** – G4106 – *plane* – a wandering, a straying about, one led astray from the right way, metaphorically a mental straying (error, wrong opinion relative to morals or religion); error which shows itself in action, a wrong mode of acting; error that leads to deceit or fraud.  
The root word is G4108 – *planos* – wandering, roving, misleading, a vagabond, imposter, corrupter, deceiver

5. **Versø 18** – First, Peter urges us to continue to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in God's \_\_\_\_\_  
Second, Peter urges us to grow and increase in \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_.

The Literal Standard Version says: “**and increase in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; to Him [is] the glory both now, and to the day of the age! Amen.**”

The verse is written as follows: “**Grow. But in grace, and in the knowledge of the Lord and of our Savior Jesus Christ.**”

**Grow** – G837 – *auxano* – to cause to grow, to augment (meaning make something greater by adding to it); to increase, become greater; to grow i.e. to enlarge