

**KNOWING JESUS**  
**2 PETER 1:5-11 / 2-12-20 WED.**

**I. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO KNOW JESUS?**

- A. First, knowing Jesus means developing eight specific graces or Christians characteristics—1:5-7.

**2 Peter 1:5-7**

**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.**

1. Faith—the gift of believing God and His Word.
  2. Goodness—moral excellence.
  3. Knowledge—insight into and application of Christian truth.
  4. Self-control –self-discipline.
  5. Perseverance—endurance under stress.
  6. Godliness—devotion to God.
  7. Kindness—treating others gently.
  8. Love—for God and others.
- B. Second, knowing Jesus means developing these eight graces in conjunction with each other.
1. **“Add”** in 1:5 means these eight graces stand together not alone.
  2. This means we cannot be selective about which graces we want to develop. We need them all.
- C. Third, we must be intentional about knowing Jesus—**1:5... make every effort...**
1. Developing these graces does not come naturally but super-naturally.
  2. Developing these graces not only requires effort but also time.

## II. WHY DO WE NEED TO KNOW JESUS?

- A. First, to live productive Christian lives—1:8.

**2 Peter 1:8**

**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.**

- B. Second, to remember why we were saved—1:9.

**2 Peter 1:9**

**But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins.**

- C. Third, to avoid falling back into a continual lifestyle of sin—1:10.

**2 Peter 1:10**

**Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble.**

1. This doesn't mean we will never sin—1 John 1:8 and 10.

**1 John 1:8 (Written to Christians)**

**If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.**

**1 John 1:10**

**If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.**

2. It means we should continue to grow and become more Christ-like—Romans 8:29.

**Romans 8:29**

**For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son....**

- D. Fourth to go heaven knowing we have done our best—1:11 and 2 Tim. 4:6-8.

**2 Peter 1:11**

**and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.**

**2 Timothy 4:6-8**

**6 For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.**

**CONCLUSION:** Are we growing in our knowledge of Jesus Christ? Which of these graces do we need to work on? Faith, Goodness, Knowledge, Self-Control, Perseverance, Godliness, Kindness, or Love.