POWER HOUR

11/29/2026

Lesson Text:
2 Peter 1:1-11

Related Scriptures:
Ephesians 1:3-14; 4:17-24;
Philippians 2:12-13;
Matthew 5:17-20 & 7:21-23

"FRUITFULNESS OF WISDOM"

NLT TRANSLATION

Golden Text: By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know him, the one who called us to himself by means of his marvelous glory and excellence. 2 Peter 1:3 NLT

Time: between A.D. 63 and 64 **Place**: Likely from Rome

2 Peter 1:1-11 NLT

1 This letter is from Simon Peter, a slave and apostle of Jesus Christ. I am writing to
you who share the same precious faith we have. This faith was given to you
because of the justice and fairness of Jesus Christ, our God and Savior. 2 May God
give you more and more grace and peace as you grow in your knowledge of
God and Jesus our Lord. 3 By his divine power, God has given us everything we
need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know him,
the one who called us to himself by means of his marvelous glory and excellence.
4 And because of his glory and excellence, he has given us great and precious
promises. These are the promises that enable you to share his divine nature and
escape the world's corruption caused by human desires. 5 In view of all this, make
every effort to respond to God's promises. Supplement your faith with a generous
provision of moral excellence, and moral excellence with knowledge, 6 and
knowledge with self-control, and self-control with patient endurance, and patient
endurance with godliness, 7 and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly
affection with love for everyone. 8 The more you grow like this, the more
productive and useful you will be in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 But
those who fail to develop in this way are shortsighted or blind, forgetting that they

have been cleansed from their old sins. **10** So, dear brothers and sisters, work hard to prove that you really are among those God has called and chosen. Do these things, and you will never fall away. **11** Then God will give you a grand entrance into the eternal Kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

INTRODUCTION

Wisdom takes on a sort of personhood in the Bible. Wisdom is personified as a woman in Proverbs 1:20-33 and 8:1—9:6. She has a voice that calls out to people, asking them to partake of her ways. She is the antithesis of folly, who also calls for the attention of all who will heed her words (Proverbs 9:13-18). Wisdom is aligned with God (Proverbs 8:30), for the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom (Psalms 111:10; Proverbs 1:7). Wisdom calls to everyone, and her instruction benefits both the destitute and the ruler. Those who despise her do so to their peril. Those who follow her are on the path that leads to righteousness and wealth.

Additional Scripture Readings:

Grace Trains Us. Titus 2:11-15.

How to Walk. Colossians 1:9-14.

A Prayer for Strength. Ephesians 3:14-21.

Walk in the Spirit. Galatians 5:16-26.

Grow in Grace. 2 Peter 3:14-18.

Remember These Things. 2 Peter 1:12-15.

If You Know Christ, Act! 2 Peter 1:1-11.

1. The basics of fruitfulness (2 Peter 1:1-4). Peter stated in verse 8 that we should conduct our lives in such a way that we are "neither … barren nor unfruitful" in our spiritual living. In verses 1-4, Peter identified four basic truths of the Christian life that are fundamental for this fruitful spiritual living.

A faith that comes through the "righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ" (vs. 1)

God's abundant grace and peace that come "through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord" (vs. 2)

God's divine power that gives us everything we need for "life and godliness" (vs. 3)
God's "exceeding great and precious promises" that enable us to share in His divine nature and escape the corrupting influence of the world (vs. 4)
These four basic truths form the foundation of our Christian life and are the starting point for fruitfulness.

2. The additions needed for fruitfulness (2 Peter 1:5-7). Verses 1-4 describe the basic elements of our faith. However, if we are to develop fruitfulness, Peter tells us we need to add some spiritual qualities to our faith. We can think of these qualities as stair steps toward our fruitfulness.

Virtue (living in moral uprightness and free from reproach)
Knowledge (having and growing in a personal relationship with God)
Temperance (keeping emotions and actions under control)
Patience (exercising perseverance in adversity)
Godliness (manifesting piety and reverence toward God)
Brotherly Kindness (caring for others as if they were family)
Charity (demonstrating genuine love and concern for others)

3. The importance of these additions (2 Peter 1:8-11). Why is it important to add these spiritual qualities into our lives? Because doing so will keep us from living barren and unfruitful Christian lives (vs. 8). In verse 9, Peter tells us that one who does not add these qualities "is blind" and "hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins." That person is living essentially as if he or she were unsaved.

Verse 10 gives us another reason why we need to add these qualities—so that we "shall never fall." Believers can stumble in the Christian life if they fail to add these qualities.

We should stop to note the words "give diligence to make your calling and election sure." We do not have to add anything to make our salvation more secure. These words mean that we should follow the instructions in these verses so that we will grow in confidence in our salvation.

The final reason for adding to our faith is an eternal one (vs. 11). If we add the qualities of verses 5-7, we shall have an abundant entrance into our Lord's "everlasting kingdom." All believers will enter God's kingdom, but those who develop spiritual fruitfulness in this life will be richly welcomed to their eternal home,

in contrast to the false teachers that Peter discussed later in the book.

Our goal in this life is to achieve spiritual fruitfulness by walking in God's wisdom. As we do so, we will experience His abundant blessings now and in eternity.

PRACTICAL POINTS

Our faith is a precious gift and should be cherished (2 Peter 1:1).

The world offers peace, but true peace comes only through the knowledge of God (vs. 2).

In Christ, we already have all that we need to live godly lives (vss. 3-4).

We must work to grow in virtue and faith (vss. 5-7).

It is possible to be unfruitful in the knowledge of Christ, which should motivate us to grow (vs. 8).

If we fail to grow in being Christlike, we are blind and forgetful (vs. 9).

We should remain diligent in seeking the Lord (vss. 10-11).

CONCLUSION

If we are to grow in our fruitfulness for the Lord, we need to add these spiritual qualities to our lives. Every believer needs to continue working on all the qualities that Peter lists, but we can likely identify one or two that we need to work on the most. We need the Lord's help to implement these qualities in our lives, but we also have a responsibility. We need to be diligent and make specific plans for how we will take these steps.

Next week's lesson: Next week, we will begin a new quarter focusing on the love of God. The first unit will begin with readings from the third chapter of Lamentations.

Union Gospel Press, LifeStone