

Essentials of Spiritual Growth
2 Peter 1:5-11

Where there is life there is growth.

Just as a loving parent expects their newborn child to grow, our heavenly father expects his children to grow.

Seven essentials of spiritual growth

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, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love.
(2 Peter 1:5-7 NIV)

1. Goodness

The quality of having high moral character

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable — if anything is excellent or praiseworthy — think about such things. (Philippians 4:8-9 NIV)

2. Knowledge

The knowing and understanding of God's truths.

2 Corinthians 10:5-6

3. Self-control

The ability to restrain your desires and do what is right.

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

4. Perseverance

The ability to stand your ground or keep moving forward in the face of suffering or opposition.

Romans 5:3-5

5. Godliness

Living in such a way that reflects our love and devotion to God and to His Word.

1 Timothy 4:7-10

6. Brotherly kindness

The quality of having a sincere love and devotion for others.

If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right.
(James 2:8 NIV)

Galatians 5:14-15

7. Love

The ability to love sacrificially and in spite of how others treat you.

Romans 5:6-8

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command.
(John 15:12-14 NIV)

Without these seven qualities you are in danger of great failure.