

The Seven Christian Graces

PART 2



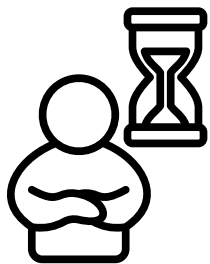
Core Scripture: 2 Peter 1:5–7

Introduction

The Christian life begins with faith, but it does not stop there. In 2 Peter 1:5–7, Peter shows us a ladder of growth, which are qualities we must add to our faith to live fruitful lives for Christ. These graces build on each other and reflect spiritual maturity. When we allow these graces to grow within us, they become our faith-in-action.

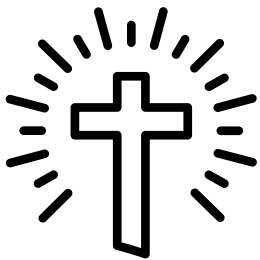
Faith – The Foundation

- Trusting in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord of our lives.
- Without faith, we cannot begin the Christian journey (Hebrews 11:6).



PATIENCE (Galatians 6:9; Romans 8:25)

Patience (Greek: Hupomone, meaning “to bear up under”) is a grace God gives to help believers control their spirit. It shows outwardly as endurance, while temperance works inwardly. True Christian maturity is marked by patience, but it is difficult to develop, even with the Holy Spirit’s help. Those with patience remain steadfast in God’s calling, continuing without quitting.



GODLINESS (Luke 9:23)

Eusebeia is the Greek word for Godliness or piety. It means devotion and reverence, with humility. To live Godly is to live a life that reflects Christ’s character in holiness. Our devotion and reverence to God our Father must come forth from a humbled heart. The Holy Spirit brings this grace to us through our sufferings. Showing godliness through our sufferings allows us to carry our cross.



BROTHERLY KINDNESS (Colossians 3:12; Galatians 6:10)

Brotherly Kindness, from the Greek word Philadelphia, means love for fellow believers. While we naturally love our families, this grace challenges us to extend that same deep care and affection to our brothers and sisters in Christ. It is more than simply loving our neighbors—it is a special gift from the Holy Spirit that enables believers to genuinely love one another from a pure heart. This kind of love is shown not just in words but in actions: going out of our way to be kind, considerate, charitable, and generous to those within the body of Christ. True Brotherly Kindness reflects Christ’s love through how we treat those in our church family, showing that our faith is not only personal but also communal.



CHARITY (LOVE) (2 Corinthians 3:18; 1 John 4:7–21)

Agape is the Greek word for love, which means Divine love from God for all mankind. This grace, God's love, growing in us becomes living water which spills out to a lost and dying world. We will find that we have a deep love for God's people wherever they may be. A love for missions, evangelism and love for the lost souls of men. Through the operation of this grace, we are being transformed from glory to glory in the image of Christ.