



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week 7: Mutual Affection

QUESTION 1

Begin by reading aloud our focus scripture. After reading it share what stands out to you from these verses, try to highlight something new. **2 Peter 1:3-15 His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. ⁴Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.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. 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. ⁹ But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins. 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, ¹¹ and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. ¹² So I will always remind you of these things, even though you know them and are firmly established in the truth you now have. ¹³ And it is only right that I should keep on reminding you as long as I live. ¹⁴ because I know that I will soon put it aside, as our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me. ¹⁵ And I will make every effort to see that after my departure you will always be able to remember these things.**

QUESTION 2

Let's focus on verses 12 and 13. **So I will always remind you of these things, even though you know them and are firmly established in the truth you now have. ¹³ And it is only right that I should keep on reminding you as long as I live.** In these two verses, Peter states his intention to continue to remind his readers about the seven virtues mentioned in verses 5-7. This reinforces for us how important it is to add these virtues to our faith, and to keep growing and developing in general. It also reminds us of the importance of being reminded. Paul stressed this point to Timothy when he said, "**Keep reminding God's people of these things.**" (2 Timothy 2:14). In fact, some form of the word "remind" appears more than 20 times in the Bible. When it comes to your faith, what are some things that you need to be consistently reminded about? What has God put on your heart to remind others about?

QUESTION 3

For the third question, we will look at verses 13 through 15 in the New Living Translation. **2 Peter 1:13-15 And it is only right that I should keep on reminding you as long as I live.¹⁴ For our Lord Jesus Christ has shown me that I must soon leave this earthly life,¹⁵ so I will work hard to make sure you always remember these things after I am gone.** In these verses, Peter is speaking about his legacy. He clearly states that he wants the seven virtues mentioned in this passage to be connected to his legacy, so they will always remember these things after he is gone. Again, this underscores how important these virtues are. It also gives us the opportunity to think about our legacies. What we want to be remembered for once we move on. Tell the story of someone you knew who has passed away but left behind a lasting legacy. Also, please share what you hope to pass on to those you love.

QUESTION 4

The virtue we focused on this week is the second-to-last, **mutual affection**. This virtue brings relationships squarely into focus. When you combine it with the last virtue, **love**, it reveals something important about Christian relationships. We clearly understand that we should love one another with the love of Christ, but we also need to work to love one another like family. Peter uses the Greek word philadelphia (φιλαδελφία). The word is best understood by breaking it into two roots: philos ("loving/dear") and adelphos ("brother"). It literally means "fraternal affection" or "brotherly love," and it is often used in the New Testament to describe the deep, familial love Christians should have for one another. The word calls Christians to deep, intimate friendship. It represents a warm, emotional bond rooted in shared values, mutual respect, and close companionship. The word occurs 6 times in the New Testament. **Hebrews 13:1 Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. Romans 12:10 Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other.** As a group, discuss this virtue of philadelphia, or mutual affection. Take time to discuss how important you think it is, and how you develop it. Address the level of philadelphia in your group, and how you might increase it.