

Intro: Suppose you knew your life would be over in the next 30 days, and I gave you a piece of paper and said, write a final goodbye to the people you love. What would you write? What Important?

That is what Peter is doing in the letter we call 2Peter. He is saying goodbye to people he loves...Life over

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~Say goodbye because I am soon gone

~Remind you of some important things you need to remember

4 Things Over the Next 4 Weeks

- Remember What Kind of Spiritual Life You Want: Effective and Productive
- Remember the Foundation You Build That Kind of Life On: The Word of God
- Remember the Dangers You Need to Avoid: False Prophets and Teachers
- Remember the Day You are To Be Looking Forward To: The Day Jesus Returns

The first thing Peter reminds his friends of is to keep their eyes on the target:

Remember The Life You Want: Effective and Productive, and How You Are Going To Get It!

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1. Remind You Of Where The Power Comes From For Successful Christian Living. Vs 3

ILLUS: Hang In There, Friday's Coming!

- Source: His Divine Power We don't (can't) do this in our own strength
- Product: Life and Godliness Living for Him, Becoming Like Him
- Channel: Knowledge of Him Full Discernment, Knowledge, Understanding

2. Remind You Of the Promises You Need to Hold On To In Order To Keep Your Life Pure. Vs 4

Promises: Lit= the act of binding yourself to a course of action through your words

God spoke...And committed Himself to Certain things in our life!

ILLUS: Wed night Class for new Christians...Talked about first promise from God I memorized

- **1 Cor 10:13** **Temptation:** No temptation has taken you... Struggle with Temptation
- **1 John 1:7** **Cleansing:** If we walk in the light as he is in he light Struggle with Sin
- **Heb 4:16** **Access:** Let us then come boldly Struggle with feeling close to God
- **Rom 8:1** **No Guilt:** There is therefore now no condemnation Struggle with Guilt
- **Phil 1:6** **Guarantee:** He who began a good work... Struggle with Confidence

These, and many other promises from God, give us the strength to live the kind of life we want to live!

When We have these promises instilled in our heart and mind and soul they do two things.

1. Positive: Help us **Participate** with God! Lit= Fellowship, be spiritually united, stay connected to Him

2. Negative: Help us **Escape** Corruption! Lit= Help us flee from those things that would destroy us spiritually

3. Remember The Process You Need To Participate In To Have A Productive Spiritual Life. Vs 5-9

ILLUS: Brings to mind the image of following a recipe and making food! (Cake)

All different ingredients that must be added at just the right time, right way to get right result.

- *Who is In Control of the Process?* You are! (You Add to your faith)
God gave you faith, you must add these parts.
That's what Spiritual Disciplines were all about.
- *What are you adding?* Different Components of Spiritual life
Faith
Goodness *Moral energy in the right direction*
Knowledge *Insight and understanding*
Self-Control *Holding yourself in check*
Perseverance *Cheerful endurance, Patient continuing*
Godliness *Having God's character*
Brotherly Kindness *Seeking their best because you love them*
Love *Seeking their best because God loves them*
- *What are the results?* Effective Field (not producing because not planted)
Productive Field (not producing because not fruitful)

ILLUS: In the same way you would never look at ingredients, say, no cake! Unless you act

So you cannot look at your spiritual life and say, no fruit,

If you are not acting! If you say, Its not what I want, answer question. Are you planting, Are you nourishing fruit

4. Remember To Get Ready For The Party You Should Be Using This Life To Prepare For. Vs 10-11

Peter is saying to us, remember what this life is all about! Keep your eye on the prize.

Live for what really counts!

This life 70-80 years, Life with Christ...Eternity...Which are you living for!?

- **Gain the right perspective!** The dot..or the line!?
- -----
- **Keep your footing**
If you do this things you will never fall
What things? (Draw on His Power, Hold to His Promises, Stick to Right Process, Get Ready for Party!)
Never Fall (Be tripped up by sin in this life) Red Carpet!
- **Plan for the Party** (Rich reward)

CONCLUSION: (True or not? Good Story)

Missionary Returning from Mission field

Same Steam Ship as the President of the US

Boats out, 1000's people cheering, Streams of water in air, Band playing, Streamers

A friend looks and says, Amazing, President welcome home with fanfare

But you, after a lifetime of sacrifice in eternal things...No welcome at all

I hope you don't feel badly

Not at all... You see, I'm not home yet...

Looking forward to rich welcome

What about you?

What kind of welcome will you receive?

- Drawing on His power to live successful Christian life, failing on your own?
Come and pray, say, God, give me strength to live for you
- Holding onto the promises?
Pick one..memorize one a week...amazing what will happen in our heart
- Actively engaged in the right process?
Spiritual life not what you want...I can give you the Ingredients, You have to mix them..
- Have your eyes on the Party? Living for the Day when it really counts?
Decide, what you want...this one...the one to come...can't always have both