

SPEAKER: SENIOR ASSOCIATE PASTOR PETRINA GUNERATNAM

SERMON: SUCCESS STRATEGY FOR 2008

TEXT: 2 Peter 1:10

v10 - *Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; (NKJ)*

v10 - *Because of this, brethren, be all the more solicitous and eager to make sure (to ratify, to strengthen, to make steadfast) your calling and election; for if you do this, you will never stumble or fall. (Amplified Bible)*

The promise from God's Word is you will never stumble or fall.

God also provides us the Success Strategy

The Success Strategy is found in 2 Peter 1:1& 2

- v1 *Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ,
To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:*
- v2 *Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, (NKJ)*

The Strategy begins with having faith!

I. “Like Precious Faith” means

“Like Precious Faith” means faith of our forefathers – who are better known as the heroes of faith in Hebrews Chapter 11.

Their journey in faith, trust in God for the impossible, strength to overcome every challenge caused them to be heroes of faith.

We have the same kind of faith. Ephesians 4:5- Paul says, *“one Lord, one faith, one baptism;”(NKJ)*

This precious faith has 7 characteristics found in 2 Peter 1:5-7

- v5 *But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge,*
- v6 *to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness,*
- v7 *to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. (NKJ)*

THE SEVEN CHARACTERISTICS OR INGREDIENTS OF FAITH

1. **Virtue** – a life of good character and disciplines, moral integrity
2. **Knowledge** – an understanding of what God thinks and values
3. **Self-control** - the ability to lead oneself before leading others
4. **Perseverance** – the ability to patiently stick to what is right
5. **Godliness** – a Spirit-filled, spirit-led lifestyle that reflects the Lord Jesus
6. **Brotherly kindness** – a lifestyle that is warm, relational and caring
7. **Love** – the highest quality that enables a leader to sacrificially given to others

2 Peter 1:8

For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. (NKJ)

II. PETER EXHORTS US TO GIVE ALL DILIGENCE TO ADD TO OUR PRECIOUS FAITH “GRACE”, “PEACE” AND “KNOWLEDGE”.

2 Peter 1:2

“Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, ...” (NKJ)

1. Grace

“May grace (God’s favour) be multiplied to you in (the full personal, precise and correct) knowledge of God and of Jesus Christ our Lord.” (*Amplified Bible*)

Peter is wanting all of us – God’s children to understand the grace of God which is the favour of God given to each of us. It is given ... have you receive it, have you received the fullness of grace.

Favor allows us to do things that others cannot do.

We must receive Grace abundantly.

Grace and Peace be multiplied.

2. Peace

Peace – “May grace (God’s favour) and peace be multiplied to you.

There is a six-fold definition of peace spoken by Apostle Peter.

Perfect well-being

All necessary good.
 All spiritual prosperity.
 Freedom from fears.
 Deliverance from agitating passions.
 Deliverance from moral conflicts.

3. **Knowledge** **How can we know God?**

- *By learning God's History – much of God's history is found in the Old Testament
- *By learning God's Culture – God's culture is Holiness
- *By communicating with God –Prayer and Communion
- *Know God Through Jesus – we know Jesus through the New Testament

CONCLUSION

2 Peter 1:8

For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 1:10

Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble;

2 Peter 1:3

“As His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,” (NKJ)