

YEAR OF GROWTH

GODLINESS

WEEK 4

EXERCISE

How To Grow in Godliness:

It is important to understand the meaning of godliness and to see examples of this characteristic in Scripture. Yet, it is also important to do the work necessary to have and to develop godliness. Our focus will be on passages that teach what one must do to have and to grow in godliness.

Day One _____ – Sunday

Reflect on the definitions of the words that God used to describe godliness. Think back over the previous lessons. Read again the passages that you have written. Recall the verses you have memorized. Focus on the meaning of godliness and prepare to exercise in developing this characteristic.

Day Two _____ – Monday

1 Timothy 4:6-13

Developing godliness requires exercise. Paul declares that there is some profit in physical exercise. However, there are far greater benefits that come from spiritual exercise. Godliness affects all aspects of this life and brings salvation in the world to come! If only men cared for the health of their souls as they do the health of their bodies!

The means of exercising godliness is studying and practicing the Truth of Scripture. It requires rigorous training, like an athlete competing in the games. The goal is a greater reverence for and realization of God and His character.

Day Three _____ – Tuesday

2 Corinthians 5:1-10

Developing godliness requires labor. The word for 'labor' literally means, "The love of honor." One who desires honor will focus his mind and devote his actions toward it. Thus, this word means, "To make it one's aim" or "To strive earnestly."

The Christian's goal is not the approval of men but the honor of God. So, we labor to be fully agreeable and well-pleasing to God. Godliness is the goal and the motivating factor of the Christian's life.

Day Four – Wednesday**2 Peter 3:8-14**

Developing godliness requires remembering and relying upon the promises of God. To direct our lives toward God and to be more like Him demands that we know His nature. God is a God of Truth – His Word is right, and His promises are sure. Peter reminds us that God kept His promise to destroy the world by the Flood. Likewise, God will keep His promise to destroy the world by fire when Jesus returns. Understanding the faithfulness of God (and the temporary nature of this world) ought to motivate all men to live godly lives. Godliness motivates the Christian to remain faithful to God when enduring the trials of life.

Day Five – Thursday**1 Timothy 6:6-12**

Developing godliness requires learning contentment. “Godliness with contentment is great gain.” The true wealth of this life is learning to be content with God’s fellowship and godly living. There is nothing more important.

Day Six – Friday**John 4:19-24**

Developing godliness requires true worship. Through worship, the Christian bows before the throne of God to pay honor and homage to Him. This is an expression of godliness; yet it is also a means of becoming more godly. Worship is to be in spirit as well as in truth. It requires the proper attitude toward God. As we commune with the Creator in prayer, singing, study, giving, and partaking of the Lord’s Supper, we are focusing our hearts and lives toward God. This will develop greater godliness.

Day Seven – Saturday**Isaiah 40:25-31**

Developing godliness requires a continually growing reverence for God. There is none like Him! When we learn to honor Him by waiting upon Him – submitting to His will in every area of life – we will have strength to endure the tests of life. And, in the end, we will have a home in Heaven.