

SERMON MESSAGE FOR FEBRUARY 23/24, 2019

Pastor Dennis Keating

PILGRIM

Practice Required
2 Peter 1:1-11 (p. 1036)

THE GROWTH PROCESS ...

1. _____ on God's _____ of faith. (1:1; Eph. 2:8-9)
2. _____ to the Spirit's _____ within us. (1:2-4)

THE POINT → God's plan is to grow us from _____.

3. Clarifying the _____ for _____. (1:5)

(Col. 3:17)

4. Being _____ in our _____. (1:5-7)

THE POINT → _____ requires _____.

5. Being _____ of a heavenly _____. (1:8-11; Matt. 25:31)

Have a question or comment about the Pilgrim series?

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FROM FEBRUARY 23/24, 2019 SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR SERMON-BASED LIFE GROUPS

Personal preparation: Read the passage, review your outline, and think through the questions. With your group, watch the video blog together.

CONNECTING

1. Generally speaking, are you the type of person who is more motivated by the thought of doing something you don't have to do, or by the thought of doing something you have to do? Why?

GROWING

2. Usually we work, and then rest. This text calls us to rest, and then work (v. 1, 5).

- Why is this so important for the Christian life?
 - How does this equation for spiritual growth impact the way you think (and feel) about pursuing it? Why?
3. Re-visit the list of spiritual practices from your outline.
 - Of the seven qualities listed, which two or three do you seem to possess the most? Why? How would you like to continue to progress in these areas?
 - What is one from the list that you would like to grow in? Why? How might you "make every effort" in this area?

SHARING

4. What is one prayer request you have that directly relates to this week's message?

Pilgrim Week 8 Memory Verse

"Do not waste time arguing over godless ideas and old wives' tales. Instead, train yourself to be godly."

1 Timothy 4:7 (NLT)

February 23/24, 2019
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(For Scripture references and fill-in the blanks)

"... there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." Romans 8:1

"The way of the spiritual life begins by accepting the reality of our broken, flawed lives; not because the spiritual life will remove our flaws but because we let go of seeking perfection and, instead seek God, the one who is present in the tangledness of our lives." Michael Yaconelli

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

"But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh." Galatians 5:16

THE GROWTH PROCESS ...

1. **Resting** on God's **gift** of faith. (1:1; Eph. 2:8-9)

"For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast." Ephesians 2:8-9

2. **Yielding** to the Spirit's **power** within us. (1:2-4)

THE POINT: God's plan is to grow us from **the inside out**.

"The divine Potter makes masterpieces out of messes. We bring the mess. The Potter works the transformation." Stephen W. Smith

3. Clarifying the **motivation** for **discipline**. (1:5)

- **Thanks-driven obedience**. (Col. 3:17)

"Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father." Colossians 3:17

4. Being **diligent** in our **practices**. (1:5-7)

THE POINT: **Growth** requires **effort**.

"... discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness;" 1 Timothy 4:7

5. Being **assured** of a heavenly **reward**. (1:8-11; Matt. 25:31)

"... well done you good and faithful servant." Matthew 25:31