



BE ALL THE MORE
Diligent

5 Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge, 6 and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness, 7 and in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love. 8 For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they do not make you useless nor unproductive in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 For the one who lacks these qualities is blind or short-sighted, having forgotten his purification from his former sins. 10 Therefore, brothers and sisters, *be all the more diligent* to make certain about His calling and choice of you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble; 11 for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you. 2 PETER 1:5-11



Why This Scripture?

- A congregation, just like an individual, is going to have periods of its life when, for one reason or another, it must recover from trauma. It's important to remember that recovery is not wasted time or a sign that something is fundamentally wrong. In fact, tending to injury is one of our most basic physical needs.



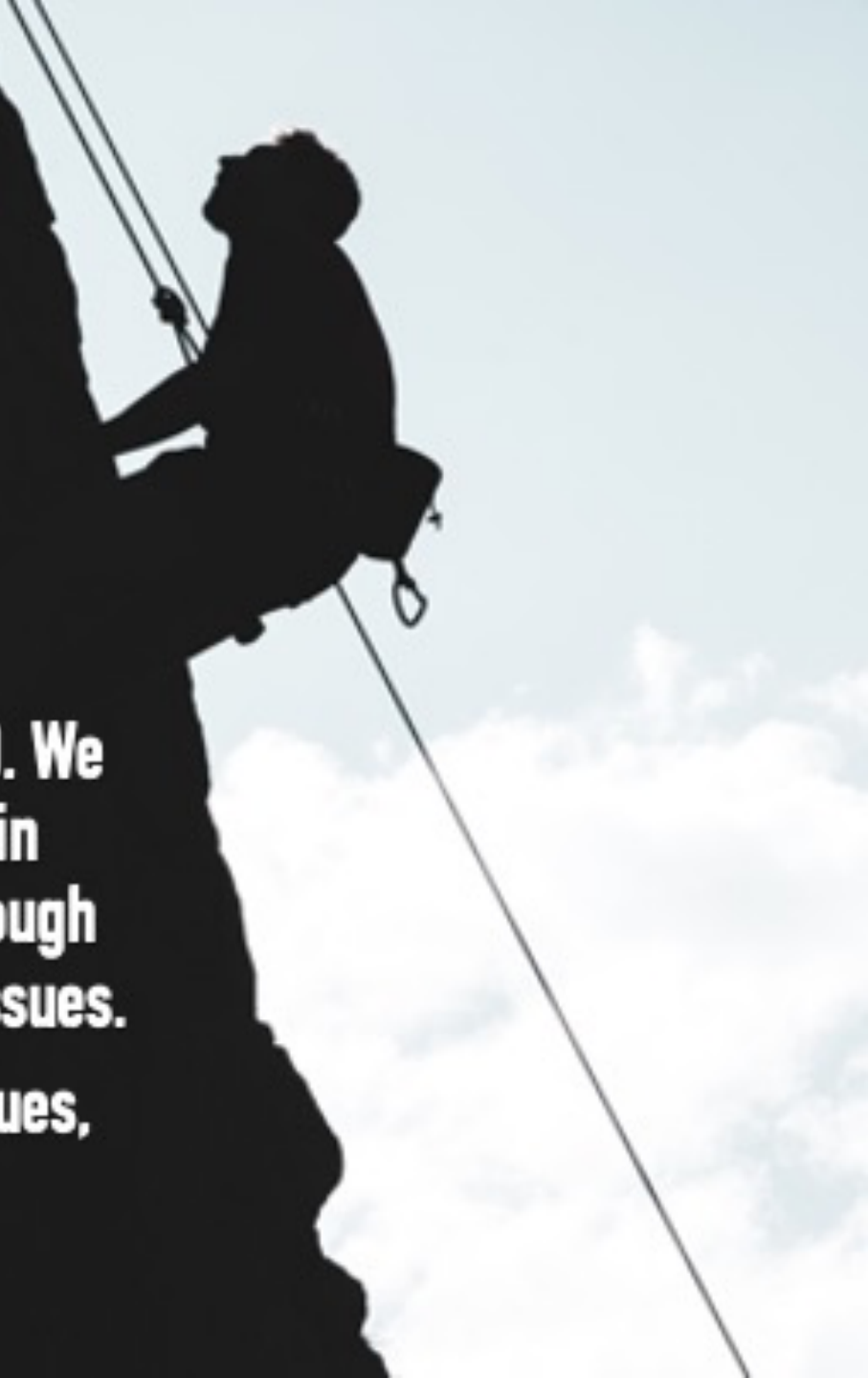
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- Our church had almost every aspect of its life disrupted in 2020. We had to put goals on the backburner, adjust expectations, invest in new means of accomplishing scriptural directives, and make tough choices about how to handle some surprisingly controversial issues.
- It's time to get back to fundamentals, to attend to neglected virtues, and to focus on the Biblical vision of Christ's church under the conditions of this exciting, but often uncertain, time in history.



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2 Peter 1:5-11

- March: Introduction
- April: Diligent Faith
- May: Moral Excellence
- June: Knowledge
- July: Self-control
- August: Perseverance
- September: Godliness
- October: Brotherly Kindness
- November: Love
- December: The Great Reward – Salvation

2021 EAST SHELBY THEME





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- There is also going to be some new online material produced throughout the year. One series will be a "Bible basics" video class. It will serve as an evangelistic tool. Another series will be produced every other week, loosely based on our favorite scriptures. Each video (10 minutes or less) will involve me interviewing different members of the church family about their favorite Bible verses (Why this passage? How has it helped you over the years? Etc., etc.).



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- We will also be scheduling several opportunities throughout the year to host extended Bible readings. These will be informal, in-home activities involving out-loud readings of entire books.



As each new attitude begins to develop into maturity, beginning first of all with faith, it leads to the formation and growth of another. While some translations utilize the word “add to” with reference to each rising manner, one writer offers this take, “The A.V. exhorts ‘to add’ one virtue to another; but the Greek, ‘to develop one virtue in the exercise of another:’ ‘and increase by growth, not by external junction; each new grace springing out of, attempting, and perfecting the other” (Word Studies In The New Testament, Vol. I, Vincent, 679).

A silhouette of a person rappelling down a dark, jagged rock face. The person is positioned on the right side of the frame, looking upwards. Two ropes are visible, one attached to the person's harness and another running parallel. The background is a bright, cloudy sky. The text "Diligent Faith" is written in a white, italicized serif font at the bottom center.

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Moral Excellence
Diligent Faith

A silhouette of a person climbing a rope against a cloudy sky. The person is positioned on the right side of the frame, looking upwards. The rope is a single line extending from the top right towards the center. The background is a light blue sky with white clouds. The left side of the image is a solid black area.

Knowledge
Moral Excellence
Diligent Faith

A silhouette of a person climbing a rope against a light blue sky with white clouds. The person is positioned on the right side of the frame, looking upwards. The rope extends from the top right towards the center. The background is a gradient of light blue and white clouds.

Godliness
Perseverance
Self-control
Knowledge
Moral Excellence
Diligent Faith

A silhouette of a person climbing a rope against a light blue sky with white clouds. The person is positioned on the right side of the image, facing left, and is holding onto a rope that runs diagonally from the top right towards the bottom right. The person's body is angled upwards, and they appear to be in the middle of a climb. The background is a soft, out-of-focus sky with scattered white clouds.

Love
Brotherly Kindness
Godliness
Perseverance
Self-control
Knowledge
Moral Excellence
Diligent Faith

useless

& unproductive



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