

## The Order of Worship

Opening Song	The Everlasting Love of God
A Prayer of Praise	Highlight Attribute <i>Longsuffering</i>
Scripture Reading	II Peter 1:5-9
A Prayer for the Nations*	Yemen
Affirmation of Faith	
Communion	
A Prayer for the Lost	
Congregational Song	In Christ Alone
Sermon:	II Peter 1:6-9

Christians in Yemen usually keep their faith secret, because if they are discovered then they could face the death penalty. Leaving Islam is forbidden, and all Yemenis are considered Muslims by the state.

It's not just the authorities who persecute Christians. Islamic militant groups threaten Christians from a Muslim background with death, and tribes may kill or banish anybody converting to Christianity.

The ongoing war, humanitarian crisis and COVID-19 pandemic in Yemen are impacting all citizens, but Christians are additionally vulnerable because emergency relief is mostly distributed through organizations that use local Islamic leaders and local mosques to give aid. These are believed to discriminate against anybody who is not considered to be a devout Muslim. There are accounts of Yemeni Christians being refused treatment at under-resourced hospitals.



## Prayer Requests

Mary Ann Cooper Collierville	Barry Wilson Rita Stewart
James Payne Family Shirley Pruett	Danette Roberson Jett Bobo

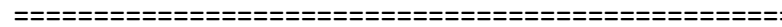
## Announcements

Oct 9 <sup>th</sup>	Rummage Sale
Oct 16 <sup>th</sup>	Gems
Oct 30 <sup>th</sup>	The Brethren Fellowship
Nov 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Believer's Pot Luck
Nov 21 <sup>st</sup>	Farmer's Market
Dec 18 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Cookie Walk
Jan 16 <sup>th</sup>	Chili Lunch
Feb 13 <sup>th</sup>	Valentine Cookie Cake

## **Explorer's Bible Study**

Tuesday Mornings and Wednesday Evenings

**The Brethren of Emory** (Joel Barrett)



## II Peter 1:6-9

It's far less demanding to avoid the external social sins like movies, drinking, smoking, etc. than it is to add the virtues mentioned in our passage today. However:

### I. Assurance Involves \_\_\_\_\_.

Remember that Jesus always gives us the \_\_\_\_\_ we need before He commands us to do anything. Peter has already told that the Divine Power of God has given us \_\_\_\_\_ pertaining to life and godliness. Even so, Peter tells us we are to "make every effort to supplement" our faith with virtues.

### II. Assurance Requires \_\_\_\_\_.

Another virtue, even a fruit of the Spirit we see in Galatians 5, is \_\_\_\_\_. It carries the thought of holding oneself in. It was used in Ancient Greece in ref to athletes as they prepared. This is a difficult one for us, I bet. Our lives are to be marked by a demonstration of self control. Notice Peter doesn't give us a "to do" or "not to do" list.

Closely related to self control is \_\_\_\_\_. It is the willingness to accept whatever obstacles are placed in life's path and the courage to make them stepping stones. Great Quote...

Godliness, the next virtue, is living a life that is like God, a life that pleases Him. This life is devoted to a genuine worship of God, lived out in devotion to others. John Calvin CORAM DEO.

Philadelphia - This virtue is a genuine proof of faith that we have love for other believers. (Luther). A love for Jesus will, necessarily, translate to others.

Love - This love is not emotional, it is a choice. It recognizes the debt believers have for the lost.

### III. Assurance is Evidenced by \_\_\_\_\_.

The consequence of having and continuing in these virtues is that we are reaping/we will reap a spiritual harvest. We will be productive in the kingdom. Peter states it negatively: Not being diligent, being inactive will produce ineffectiveness and, sadly, we will be \_\_\_\_\_ in society.

Is it any wonder that human beings are idle or unfruitful, though claiming Christ as Lord, lack assurance?

### IV. No Effort, No Pursuit, No Fruit =

**A person who has a true knowledge of Jesus but lacks these virtues is blind, short-sighted, unable to discern his own spiritual condition. This person should lack assurance but they've convinced themselves of their security.**

- If you're a believer, God has given you everything needed for life and godliness.
- Maybe today you're lacking assurance of your salvation. Examine yourself for these virtues.
- **If you lack them, begin today adding/supplementing**