

Daily Devotion For July 20, 2021

<sup>5</sup> For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; <sup>6</sup> and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; <sup>7</sup> and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. <sup>8</sup> For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ." 2 Peter 1:5-8

Yesterday I made my first attempt at making Zucchini Bread. Since I had a garden full of zucchini, I thought I'd give it a try. My brother-in-law Dave gave me the recipe. After realizing that I needed to purchase a mixer, flour sifter, and other essential ingredients I followed the recipe. As of now, the house is still standing and the zucchini bread wasn't bad!

Do you have a favorite recipe? Perhaps it's a family recipe, and the ingredients are a well-kept secret. After precisely measuring the amounts of each item and mixing them in a bowl, we place it in the oven praying that the results would be something delicious.

In some ways, our lives are like a recipe. The difference is that there are no secret ingredients. It begins with a faith in Jesus Christ. In 2 Peter 1:5-8 the apostle Peter gave us some ingredients for an even better, more fulfilling life in Christ. Here's his recipe for an effective and productive life:

- Begin with a personal relationship with Jesus.
- Add goodness and an equal amount of knowledge.
- Stir in self-control and perseverance.
- Combine with godliness and a pinch of mutual affection.
- Mix thoroughly and bake with an abundance of love.

**Thought For Today:** God does not expect us to become instantly perfect in the qualities listed by Peter, but he tells us that we can "possess these qualities in increasing measure." Growing in these areas because of our relationship with Jesus is the best recipe for a productive life.

**Today's Prayer Focus:** Thank God that he has provided a wonderful recipe for a fulfilling life in Christ. Continue to add the daily prayer fuel to your devotional life. Deo Volente.