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**Sermon Title: *“Blessed Assurance”***

**Scripture: 2 Peter 1:5-11**

**Matt Vohwinkel / Sunday, February 26, 2023**

**Point 1**

While salvation is not obtained by our effort, we are commanded to **make every effort**

 to pursue a **flourishing faith**. (2 Peter 1:5)

 **Point 2**

While saving faith **is not secured** by our works, our faith was designed **to be supplemented** by our works.(2 Peter 1:5-7)

 **Point III**

If we **desire to acquire** the fruits of assurance, then we must **pursue the path** given by the One who produces it. (John 15:5, *“Abide in Christ”* by Andrew Murray)

**Point IV**

Assurance flows from a **fruitful faith** that is aligned with its **intended design**.(2Peter1:8-9

**Point V**

A faith that does not flourish is at best a **blind and oblivious** faith. (2 Peter 1:8-10)

**Point VI**

Pursuing a flourishing faith in this life assures a **rich welcoming** into the next life.

(2 Peter 1:11, 1 Corinthians 3:14-15, Matthew 19:27-29)

 **(over)**

**Questions for further consideration…**

1. *In what ways are you making an effort to supply your faith with what it needs to thrive by pursuing personal relationship with Jesus Christ?*
2. *What are the ways that you could pursue that relationship with greater effort in light of the reward that awaits?*
3. *What are evidences of your faith that assure you personally that you belong to Jesus?*
4. *In all honesty, is your approach to the Christian life centered around deepening your relationship with Jesus, or trying harder to look more like Jesus?*
5. *What is freeing about knowing that the character of Jesus grows out of a fervent pursuit of Jesus?*
6. *How does the promise of a “richly provided entrance into the kingdom” fuel your desire to pursue Jesus all the more today?*