

## 9. Virtue (Purity)

This next set of studies is taken from 2 Peter 1:5-7. “But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, and to your faith **virtue**, to virtue **knowledge**, to knowledge **self-control**, to self control **perseverance**, to perseverance **godliness**, to godliness **brotherly kindness**, to brotherly kindness **love**.”

This passage deals with Christian character, those qualities, and attributes that the Lord desires and requires of us as Christians. God wants you to live life to the fullest capacity. That is why He is molding and shaping you each day into being more like Jesus. When you add virtue, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love to your life, you are maturing in your relationship with Jesus Christ, thus becoming more like Him. For the next seven lessons you will be learning about each of these qualities of Christian character. Keep in mind that there will always be room for growth in your life in each of these areas. There are no plateaus to arrive at where you will have received all there is to learn. If there were, you could give God a nudge and say, “Move over, there’s two of us now.”

Virtue means moral goodness, modesty, and purity. All of us are stained by sin and its hold over our lives. But God desires to share His purity, His perfection, with us through the gift of His Son Jesus Christ.

### Begin memorizing Philippians 4:8 (NIV)

**“Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.”**

1. Isaiah 6:3, 1 Samuel 2:2, and Revelation 15:4 reveals a most important attribute of God. What is it?

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God’s Holiness is “The sum of all moral excellency found in Him. He is absolute purity”.

2. God is so pure that He cannot do what according to Habakkuk 1:13?

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3. How does Psalm 12:6 describe the words of the Lord?

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God’s Word contains nothing that is useless or worthless. John 17:17 tells us that God’s Word is truth.

4. According to 1 Peter 1:22, how do we purify ourselves?

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5. As children of God we want to live a life that is clean and pleasing to the Lord. What do the following verses say about this?

Psalm 51:10 \_\_\_\_\_

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Proverbs 4:14 –15 \_\_\_\_\_

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In Psalms 51:10 (above) create means “to bring to existence” something new. Only God can fashion the heart with purity.

6. What does God promise those who are pure in heart? (Matthew 5:8)

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7. According to 1 Peter 1:15, every Christian is called to

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The word conduct (NKJV) means “manner of life”. It is used here to regard to living a life that is holy. How does God describe those who practice impurity? (Ephesians 4:18-19)

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8. What are some of the works of the flesh? Galatians 5:19-21

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It's great to know that we can be free from the bondage of the works of the flesh through yielding our lives to the Holy Spirit. See Galatians 5:16.

9. The Christian should value his body as a sacred place where God dwells. What does 1 Corinthians 6:19 tell us about our body?

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10. What principles do the following verses give for living a life of purity?

2 Timothy 2:22 \_\_\_\_\_

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Romans 13:14 \_\_\_\_\_

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11. As we become clothed with the purity of Christ, what are we to do for others? 1 Timothy 4:12

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As our faith in God increases, our lives will become more pure; and then we will seek more knowledge of God's purity and other attributes.

13. Are you living a life that is pure? \_\_\_\_\_

From memory write out your memory verse below.

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14. Do you have any questions, problems or comments that you would like to share with us?

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