

STEPS TO FAITHFULNESS  
I PETER 4:17-18

Introduction:

- A. In our Scripture Reading the Apostle Peter mentions that it is difficult to be \_\_\_\_\_. I Peter 4:18
  - 1. The word “scarcely” is from the Greek word “molis.”
  - 2. This means “that which is accomplished with great difficulty.” “Something that will only get done with a great and extended effort.”
  - 3. The Bible tells us there will be difficulties standing-up for God, Christ, the Word, and the church. Matthew 10:22
- B. There are many forces in the world today against Christianity.
- C. That is why we have these warnings from the Bible.
  - 1. Acts 14:12    2. Matthew 7:13-14    3. I Corinthians 10:12
- D. What are some steps we can take to help us be more faithful as we strive to reach our goal, Heaven?

I. Be \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Courage:
  - 1. Is the quality a person has that causes them to stand firm, to \_\_\_\_\_ when the going gets rough, and willing to undertake anything God gives them to do.
  - 2. Gives a person \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ so that they may be bold in their living for God. Acts 4:13
  - 3. Will help us \_\_\_\_\_ in a society with so much to pull us away from God. James 1:12
  - 4. Will help us from becoming \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ when trials and tribulation come our way. James 1:2-4
- B. Real courage comes from \_\_\_\_\_ . Philippians 4:13
- C. Once we realize \_\_\_\_\_ is with us, courage should be no problem. Romans 8:31.

II. Be \_\_\_\_\_

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ : To pledge one’s self to a work; to bind one’s self to a work; to promise, pledge, and the binding that causes one to engage in a work.
  - 1. Does being a \_\_\_\_\_ involve such a commitment?
  - 2. Luke 14:25-33    3. Luke 9:23

- B. Is it possible to live up to such a commitment?
  - 1. \_\_\_\_\_ did. II Corinthians 11:23-29
  - 2. \_\_\_\_\_ did. Acts 7:59-60
- C. How were they able to do this?
  - 1. They were fully committed to the Lord, and they knew come what may, His grace would be sufficient enough to carry them through.

- III. \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. \_\_\_\_\_: To keep on keeping on; not giving up; no turning back; to keep one's eye on the goal.
  - B. The Bible teaches continuance.
    - 1. Hebrews 12:1    2. Galatians 6:9    3. I Corinthians 15:58
  - C. Unfortunately, some are not good at \_\_\_\_\_.
    - 1. Matthew 21:28-31    2. It is not enough just say yes we must \_\_\_\_\_.

Conclusion:

- A. What about the questions in our text?
  - 1. Question—I Peter 4:17    Answer—II Thessalonians 1:8
  - 2. Question—I Peter 4:18    Answer—Revelation 21:8
- B. God wants \_\_\_\_\_ to be \_\_\_\_\_. II Peter 3:9
- C. **WHAT STEPS ARE YOU TAKING TO STAY FAITHFUL AND MAKE IT TO HEAVEN?**