

The Pyramid

Faith – This is the foundation. No sense talking about participating in the divine nature if you do not belong to God! (*Hebrews 11.6*)

Goodness – (Gr. *arête*) The act of living up to one's full potential. Essentially, being and doing one's absolute best – becoming the best person one can be.

Luke 2.40: “And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.”

1 Corinthians 16.13: “Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men: be strong!”

Knowledge – Inform yourself!

Ephesians 5.17: “Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.”

Self-Control – “‘All things are lawful for me,’ but not all things are helpful. ‘All things are lawful for me,’ but I will not be enslaved by anything.” (1 C 6.12)

Perseverance – He 10.36 Not starting well; ending well!

Godliness – Not looking good; being good. 2 T 3.5

Philadelphia – Loyalty to Brothers (Ro 12.10-11)

Agape – Sacrifice of Self (Jn 15.13)

Marriage of *phileo* and *agape*:

1 Peter 1.22

“Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love (*phileo*), love (*agape*) one another earnestly from a pure heart.”

Who wants to be useless? Unfruitful?



2 Peter 1:3-8