

# ESSENTIAL VIRTUES

	Loving God with My Whole Heart	Loving Neighbors as Myself	
	<p>THE GROUNDWORK FOR CHRISTLIKE CHARACTER (v. 5)</p>	<p>THE BACKBONE OF CHRISTLIKE CHARACTER (v. 6)</p>	<p>THE TRADEMARK OF CHRISTLIKE CHARACTER (v. 7)</p>
ESSENTIAL VIRTUES	<p>Saving <b>FAITH</b></p> <p>Being a “partaker of the divine nature” through the righteousness of Jesus Christ</p> <p>↓</p> <p>Pursuing the <b>EXCELLENCE</b> of Christlikeness</p> <p>Cultivating a God-mandated purpose to develop and display the excellencies (character) of Jesus Christ</p> <p>↓</p> <p><b>KNOWLEDGE</b></p> <p>Cultivating a God-taught understanding of the person, the work, and the ways of Jesus Christ</p>	<p><b>SELF-CONTROL</b></p> <p>Cultivating a God-empowered mastery of my internal desires</p> <p>↓</p> <p><b>ENDURANCE</b></p> <p>Cultivating a God-sustained faithfulness under external pressure</p> <p>↓</p> <p><b>GODLINESS</b></p> <p>Cultivating a God-honoring devotion to Jesus Christ that promotes righteousness and opposes evil</p>	<p><b>BROTHERLY KINDNESS</b></p> <p>Cultivating a God-engendered affection for and service to those in the “household of faith”</p> <p>↓</p> <p><b>LOVE</b></p> <p>Cultivating a God-imitating mindset that scripturally and sacrificially meets the spiritual needs of others</p>
	CORE VALUES	<p><b>COMMITMENT</b> to Christ</p> <p>These traits produce a whole-hearted disciple who chooses the appeals and ideals of Christ and rejects the appeals and ideals of the world.</p>	<p><b>COURAGE</b> for Christ</p> <p>These traits produce a brave-hearted disciple who advances Christ and His ways and opposes evil in himself and others regardless of risk to himself.</p>