

**2 & 3- Consecration's Measure**  
GFA Family Conference 2023

Jim Berg, DMin  
BJU Seminary Professor of Biblical Counseling  
Freedom That Lasts Founder

1



2

God is on a Mission

God is on a mission  
to redeem and restore fallen people  
to the likeness of His Son  
to the praise of His glory.

3

**2 Peter 1:1-15**

<sup>1</sup> Simeon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained a faith of equal standing with ours by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ: <sup>2</sup> May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

4

**2 Peter 1:1-15**

<sup>3</sup> His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, <sup>4</sup> by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.

5

**2 Peter 1:1-15**

<sup>5</sup> For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, <sup>6</sup> and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness [endurance], and steadfastness [endurance] with godliness, <sup>7</sup> and godliness with brotherly affection [kindness], and brotherly affection [kindness] with love.

6

2 Peter 1:1-15

*<sup>8</sup> For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins.*

7

2 Peter 1:1-15

*<sup>10</sup> Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. <sup>11</sup> For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

8

2 Peter 1:1-15

*<sup>12</sup> Therefore I intend always to remind you of these qualities, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. <sup>13</sup> I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to stir you up by way of reminder, <sup>14</sup> since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me. <sup>15</sup> And I will make every effort so that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things.*

9



10

Why this list?

11

Is there an order to this list?

12

Simultaneous yet sequential growth



13

Essential Virtues:  
Marks of the Christ-Centered Life

**Groundwork**  
of Christlikeness

Saving  
**Faith**

↓

**Excellence**

↓


**Knowledge**

Pursuing the **Excellence** of Christlikeness


Cultivating a God-mandated purpose to develop and display the excellencies (virtues/character) of Jesus Christ

14

“Supplement your faith with *virtue*”  
*Aretē* (excellence)



Aristotle:  
The *aretē* (excellence) of something was defined by its *telos* (purpose).



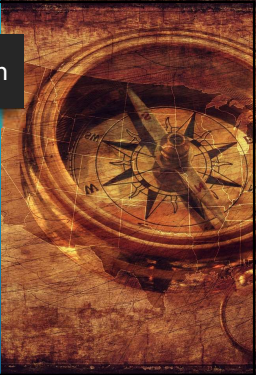
How does the NT use *aretē*?  
• 2 Pet. 1:3, 5 (twice); Phil. 4:8

15

Reset Your Compass to True North

*9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light (1 Peter 2:9)!*

Dedication—Consecration—Surrender



16

Essential Virtues:  
Marks of the Christ-Centered Life

**Groundwork**  
of Christlikeness

Saving  
**Faith**

↓

**Excellence**

↓

**Knowledge**


**Knowledge**

Cultivating a God-taught understanding of the person, the work, the ways of Jesus Christ

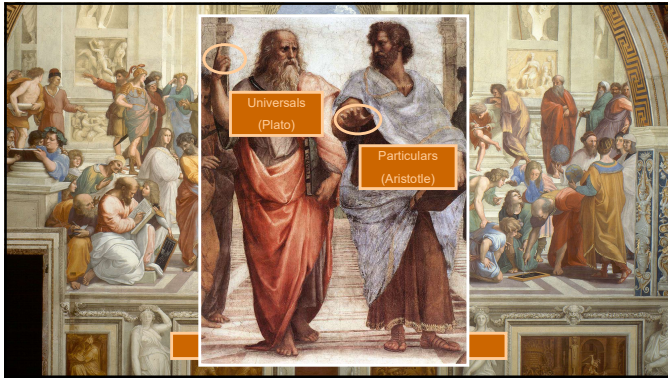
17

Raphael’s “School of Athens”

- Fresco in the Apostolic Palace in the Vatican
- Painted 1509-1511
- High Renaissance in Italy—period of Leonardo, Michelangelo, and Raphael



18



19

### Christian Liberty

The use of the *particular* is determined by the *universals*.

- Spiritual well-being of others
- Control over our own lives
- Hindrance to the Gospel
- Sheer uselessness of the activity
- Failure of activity to edify others

20

### “Supplement virtue with knowledge”

Cultivating a God-taught understanding of. . .

- The person of Christ (who He is and what He is like),
- The work of Christ (what He has done and why), and
- The ways of Christ (what He desires & demands of us).

21

### 1 Corinthians 10:31

Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, (particulars) *do all to the glory of God* (universal).

22

### Christ-Centered Pursuit of Knowledge

- Read the Word
- Memorize the Word
- Study and meditate upon the Word
- Listen to the Word preached
- Fellowship with others about Christ in His Word

All the while *look for Christ* in the Word and *fellowship with Christ* about His Word.

23

### The Base of the Pillar of Core Values

**Groundwork of Christlikeness**

Saving  
Faith

↓

Excellence

↓

Knowledge

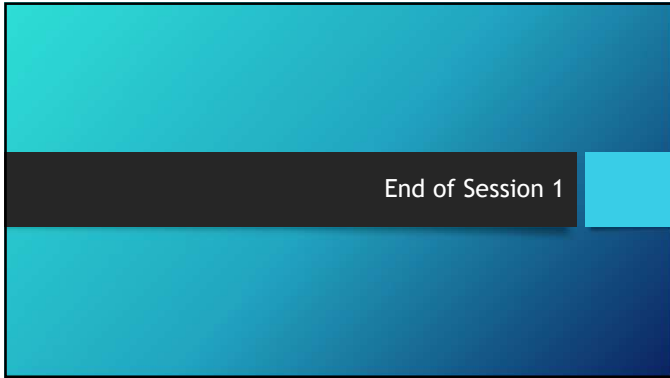
↓

Commitment to Christ

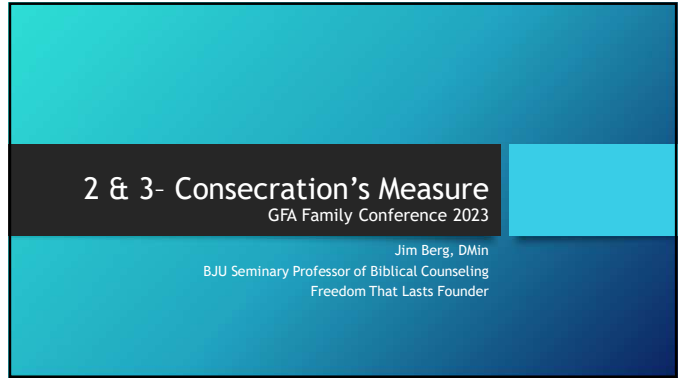
**Commitment**

These traits (*aretē* and knowledge) produce a whole-hearted disciple who chooses the appeals and ideals of Christ and rejects the appeals and ideals of the world.

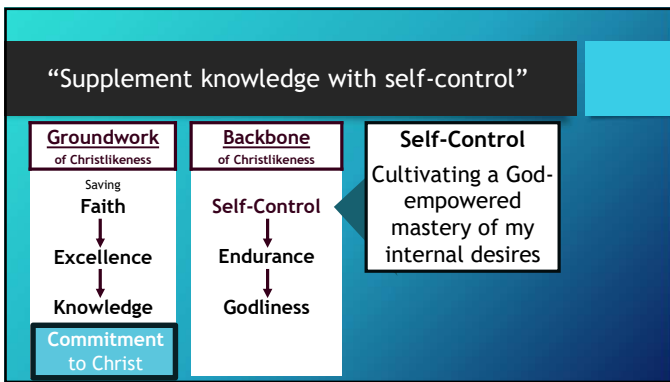
24



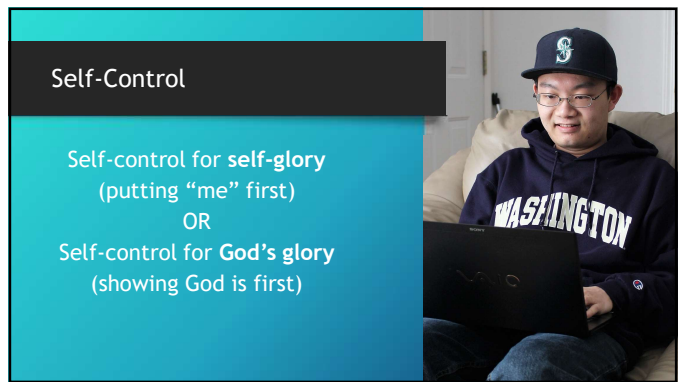
25



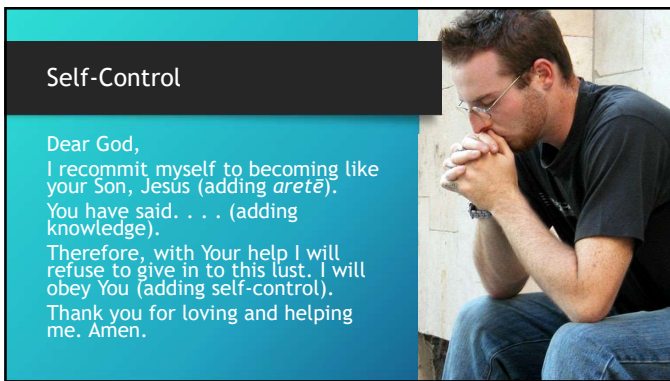
26



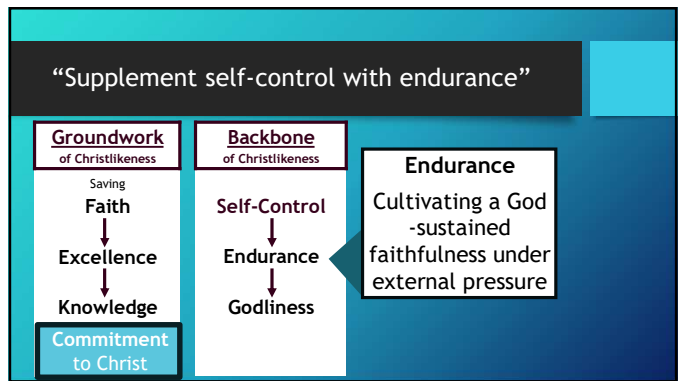
27



28



29



30

**Dr. Bob Jones, Sr. on "Endurance"**

- Finish the job.
- You can do anything you ought to do.
- Go as far as you can on the right road.
- The door to the room of success swings on the hinges of opposition.
- Do not ask God to give you a light burden. Ask Him to give you strong shoulders to carry a heavy burden.
- The test of your character is what it takes to stop you.

31

**"Supplement self-control with endurance"**


<b>Groundwork</b> of Christlikeness	<b>Backbone</b> of Christlikeness
Saving <b>Faith</b>	<b>Self-Control</b>
↓ <b>Excellence</b>	↓ <b>Endurance</b>
↓ <b>Knowledge</b>	↓ <b>Godliness</b>
<b>Commitment to Christ</b>	

**Endurance**  
Cultivating a God-sustained faithfulness under external pressure

32

**Endurance**

Endurance is built by practicing godly responses in the face of real problems.



33

**"Supplement endurance with godliness"**

<b>Groundwork</b> of Christlikeness	<b>Backbone</b> of Christlikeness
Saving <b>Faith</b>	<b>Self-Control</b>
↓ <b>Excellence</b>	↓ <b>Endurance</b>
↓ <b>Knowledge</b>	↓ <b>Godliness</b>
<b>Commitment to Christ</b>	


**Godliness**  
Cultivating a God-honoring devotion to Jesus Christ that promotes righteousness and opposes evil

34

**Godliness (OT "fear of the Lord")**

David faces Goliath in the Valley of Elah.

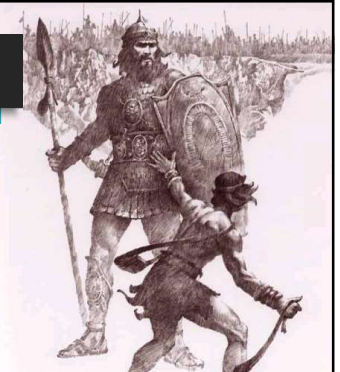
1 Samuel 17:1-51



35

**Godliness (OT "fear of the Lord")**

David will not stand by and do nothing!



36

### Godliness (OT “fear of the Lord”)

There are lines to be drawn between good and evil, and the godly man draws them.

37

### The Column of the Pillar of Core Values

Groundwork of Christlikeness	Backbone of Christlikeness	<b>Courage</b> These traits produce a brave-hearted disciple who advances Christ and His ways and opposes evil in himself and others regardless of the risk to himself.	
Living Faith	Self-Control		
Intelligence	Endurance		
Knowledge	Godliness		
Commitment to Christ	Courage For Christ		

38

### “Supplement endurance with godliness”

Groundwork of Christlikeness	Backbone of Christlikeness	Trademark of Christlikeness
Saving Faith	Brotherly Kindness	Brotherly Kindness
Excellence	↓	↓
Knowledge	Love	Love
Godliness	Compassion Like Christ	

39



40

### “Supplement brotherly kindness with love”

Groundwork of Christlikeness	Backbone of Christlikeness	Trademark of Christlikeness
Saving Faith	Love	Brotherly Kindness
Excellence	↓	↓
Knowledge	Love	Love
Godliness		

**Love**  
Cultivating a God-imitating mindset that scripturally and sacrificially meets the spiritual needs of others

41

### The Dynamic of Love

Love is godliness interacting with others

Godliness → Relationships

- Patient
- Kind
- Not jealous
- Not proud
- Not ill-behaved
- Not selfish
- Not easily provoked
- Forgiving
- Takes God’s side
- Bears, endures, hopes all things

42

### The Capital of the Pillar of Core Values

<p><b>Compassion</b> These traits produce a tender-hearted disciple-maker who seeks the lost and who by his example and effort disciples others to live a Christ-centered life.</p>	<p><b>Trademark of Christlikeness</b> Brotherly Kindness ↓ Love Compassion Like Christ</p>	
---	--	--

43

### Making Character Connections

<p><b>Groundwork of Christlikeness</b> Saving Faith ↓ Excellence ↓ Knowledge Commitment</p>	<p><b>Backbone of Christlikeness</b> Self-Control ↓ Endurance ↓ Godliness Courage</p>	<p><b>Trademark of Christlikeness</b> Brotherly Kindness ↓ Love Compassion</p>
---	---	--

44

## 2 & 3- Consecration's Measure

Jim Berg, DMin  
BJU Seminary Professor of Biblical Counseling  
Freedom That Lasts Founder

45

### Credits

- Photo of Stanza della Segnatura (papal library) by Lure - Own work, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=8534727>
- dfd

46

### Resources

47

### Shameless Promotion Again

48

### Resources for “Correction/Instruction...”

- [JimBerg.com](http://JimBerg.com)
- [BiblicalCounseling.com](http://BiblicalCounseling.com) (ACBC; Association of Certified Biblical Counselors)
- [Overseas Instruction in Counseling](http://OverseasInstructioninCounseling.com) (DiscoverOIC.org)
- [IBCD.org](http://IBCD.org) (Institute of Biblical Counseling and Discipleship)
- [CCEF.org](http://CCEF.org) (Christian Counseling and Education Foundation) – “Journal of Biblical Counseling”
- [BiblicalCounselingCoalition.org](http://BiblicalCounselingCoalition.org) (BCC; Biblical Counseling Coalition)

49

### ACBC Certification (Association Of Certified Biblical Counselors)

- Phase 1 - Learning (30 hours instruction & reading)
- Phase 2 - Exams (theology & counseling)
- Phase 3 - Supervision (50 supervised counseling sessions)

50