

From Faith to Love

Step #4 Self-Control

The Turning Point

From Faith to Love

Introduction (2 Peter 1:3-4)

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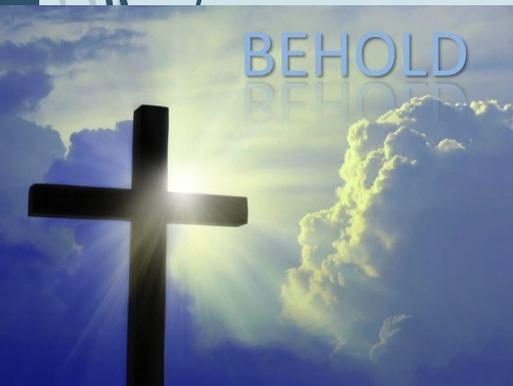
From Faith to Love

Introduction (2 Peter 1:3-4)

- We are **fully** blessed by God (physical and spiritual)
- We now have a new life with His **divine nature**
- We embark on a journey of growth toward a deeper **relationship** with God
- God has given us a roadmap for this journey—8 **steps** from faith to love



- From *trusting* to *knowing*, then to *loving*—a path for any healthy relationships (Eph. 3:17-21)



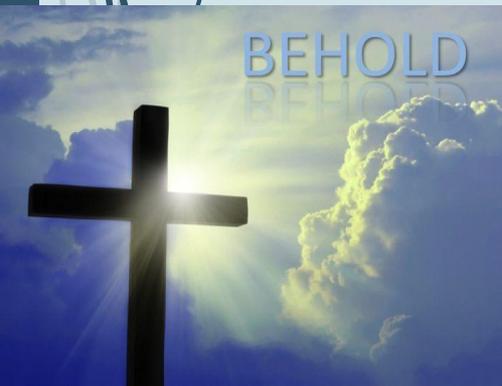
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- Faith (**trusting** Jesus)
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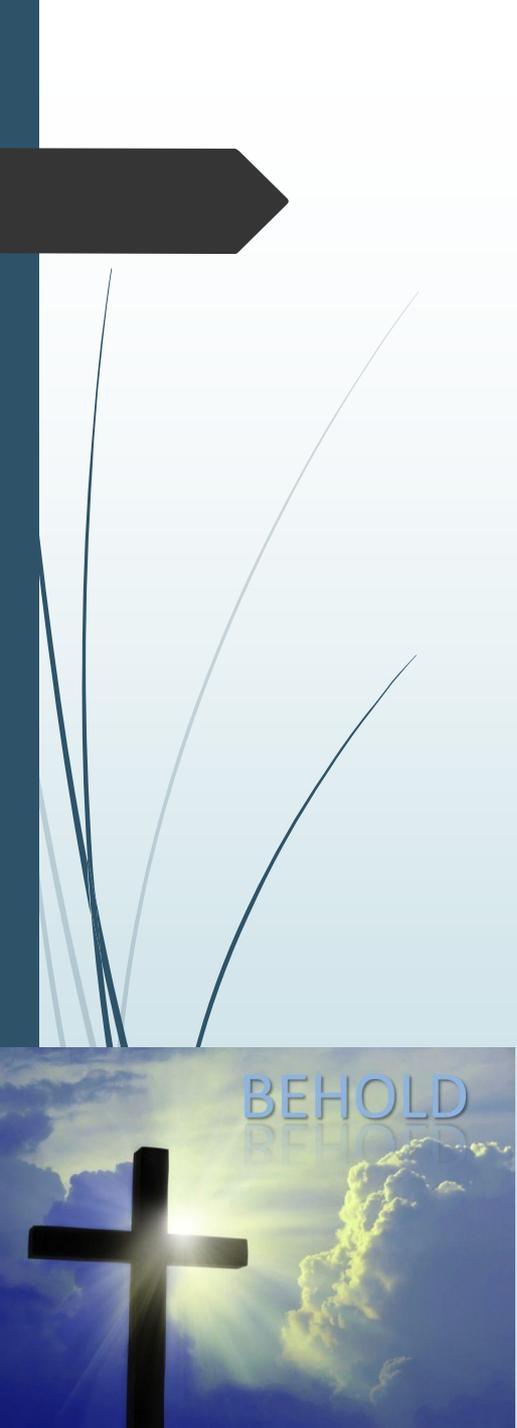
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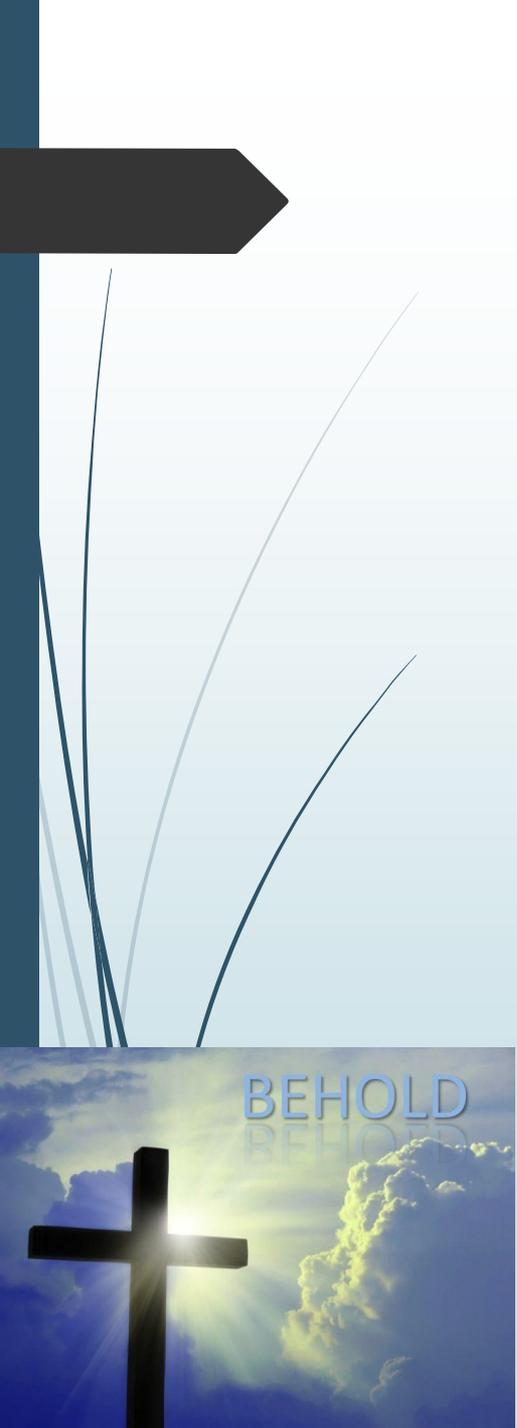


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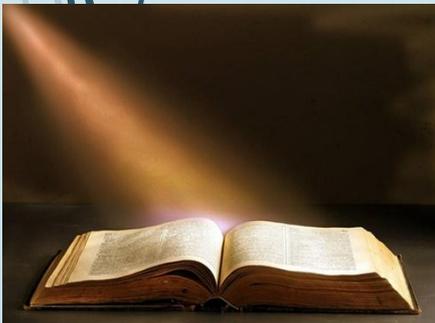
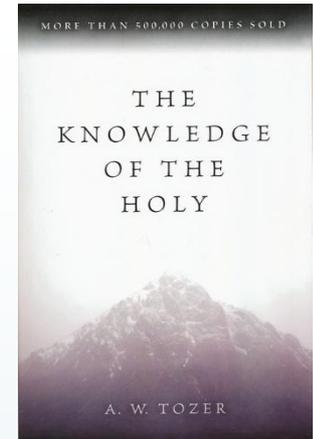
BEHOLD

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 - Behold God's **beauty** (Psalm 27:4) and **think** on it (Phil 4:8)

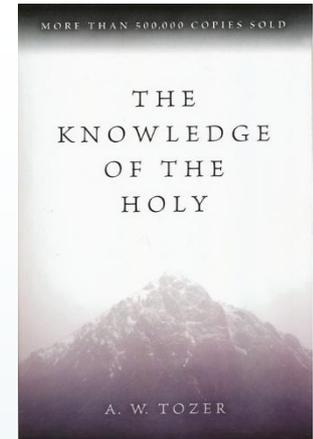
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 - Without faith we cannot see God's goodness (Psalm 27:13)

The Roadmap to Love

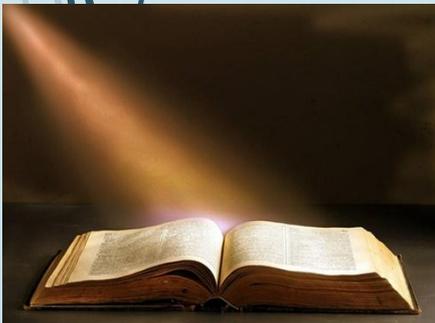
- ▶ Knowledge (**knowing** Jesus)
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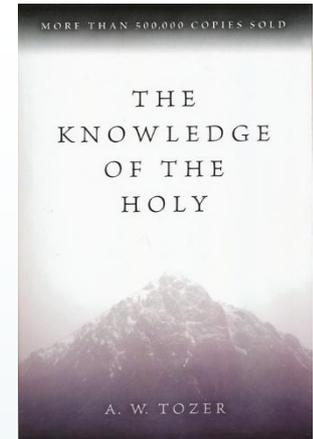
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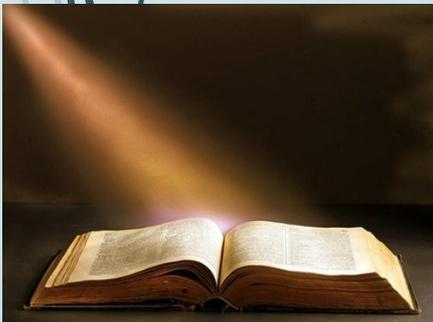
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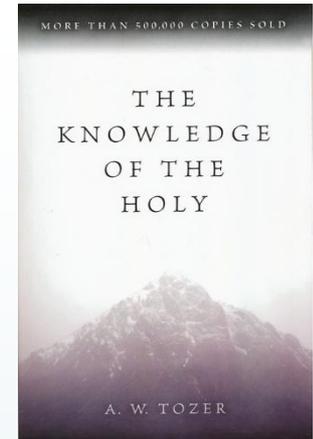
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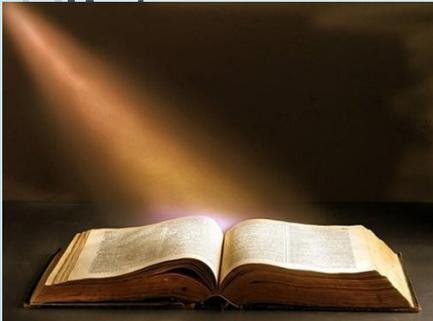
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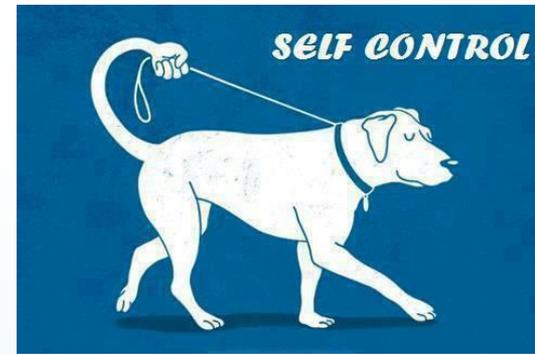
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 - We must commit to **read** and **study** the Bible
 - Col. 2:3; Phil. 3:7-14; Prov. 9:10



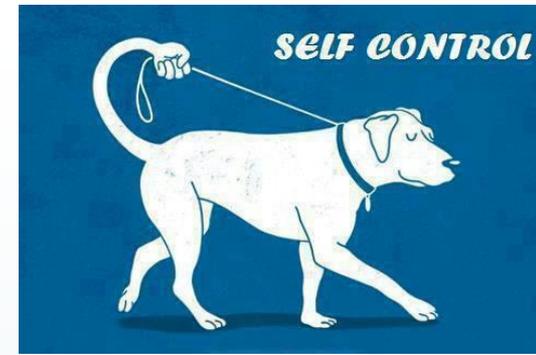
Step #4 Self-Control



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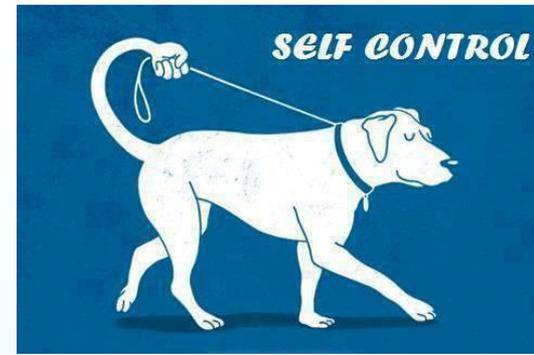
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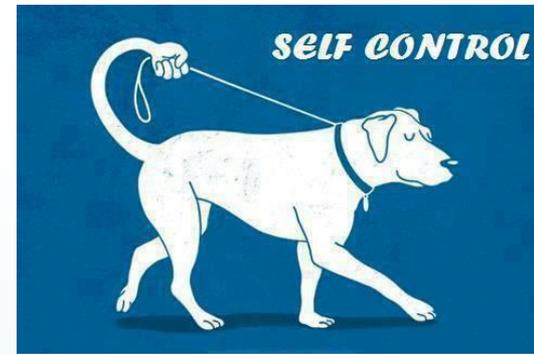
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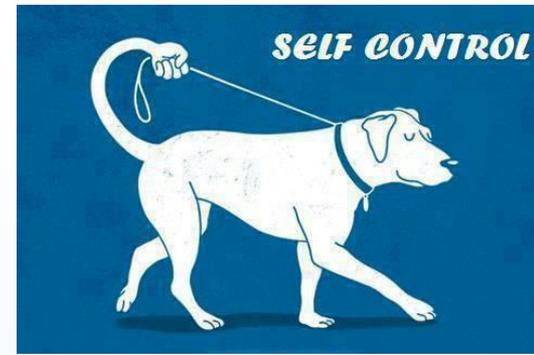
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- But how does self-control **fit** into our journey from faith to love, from no relationship with God to a deep communion with God? (ill: Jungle)



From Knowledge to Temperance



- ▶ Self-control (**imitating** Jesus)
 - ▶ When we really see who Jesus is, it will cause us to **acknowledge** who we truly are, and that we need to be **more like Him**. (Eph. 4-5)



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 - ▶ God wants to **draw** (motivate) us to be more like Him (instead of just making us)
 - ▶ 2 Cor. 5:14; Gal. 5:23; 1 Cor. 9:24-27;



Self-Control as a Journey

- I have found 6 **motivations** in the Bible that God uses to draw us to be more like Him:

In His Steps



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- Notice! Knowledge matters!!
- If you don't know—no motivation!!

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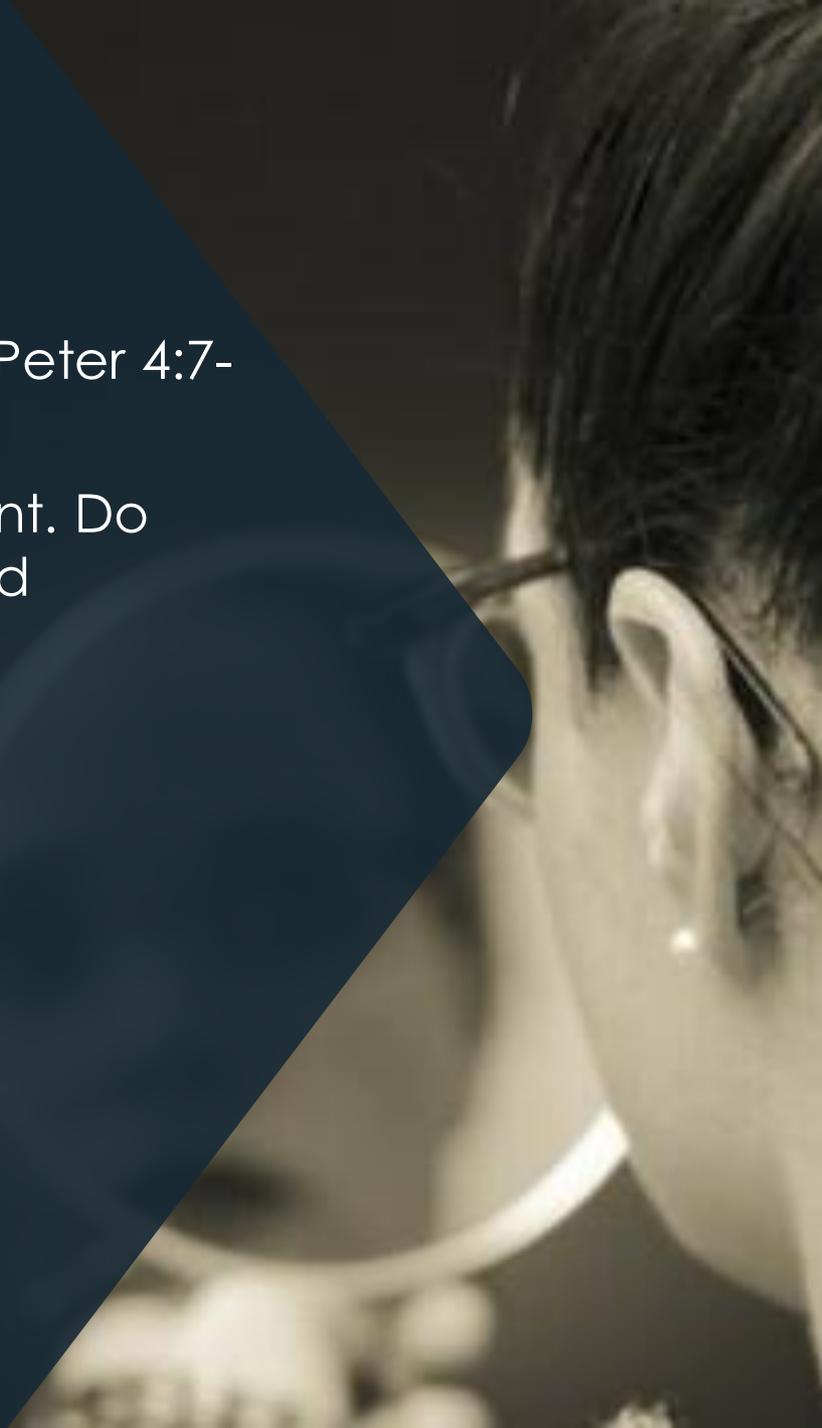
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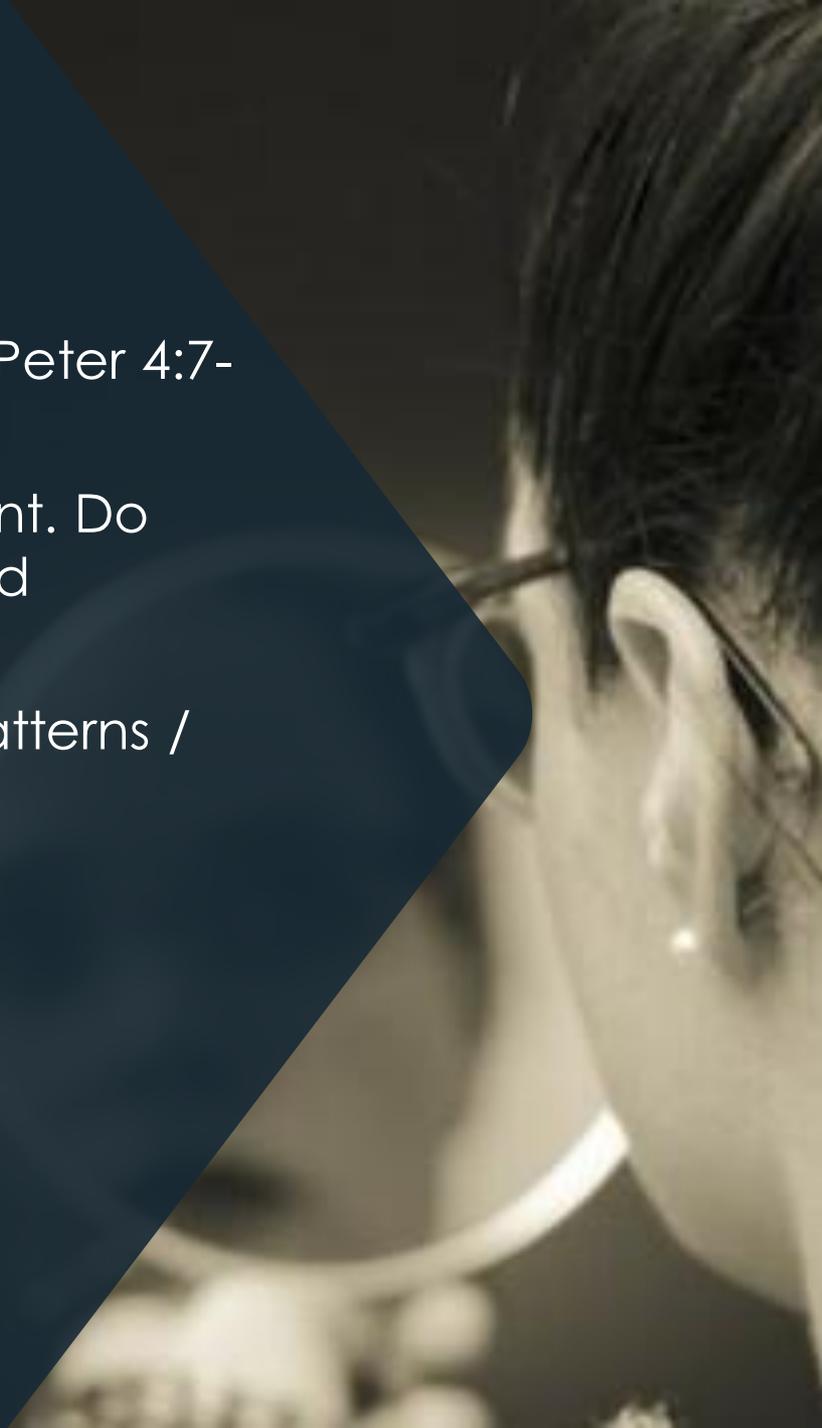
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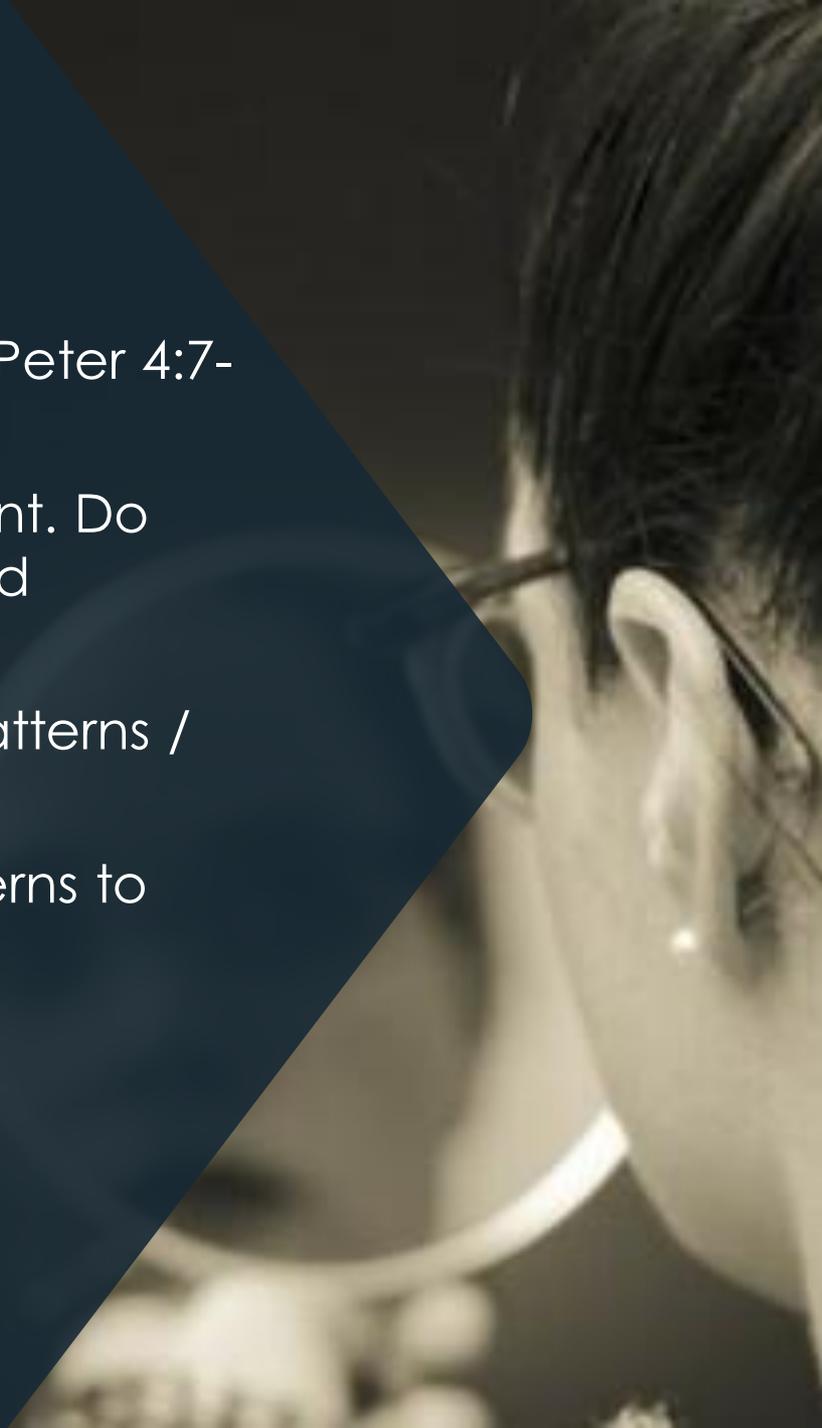
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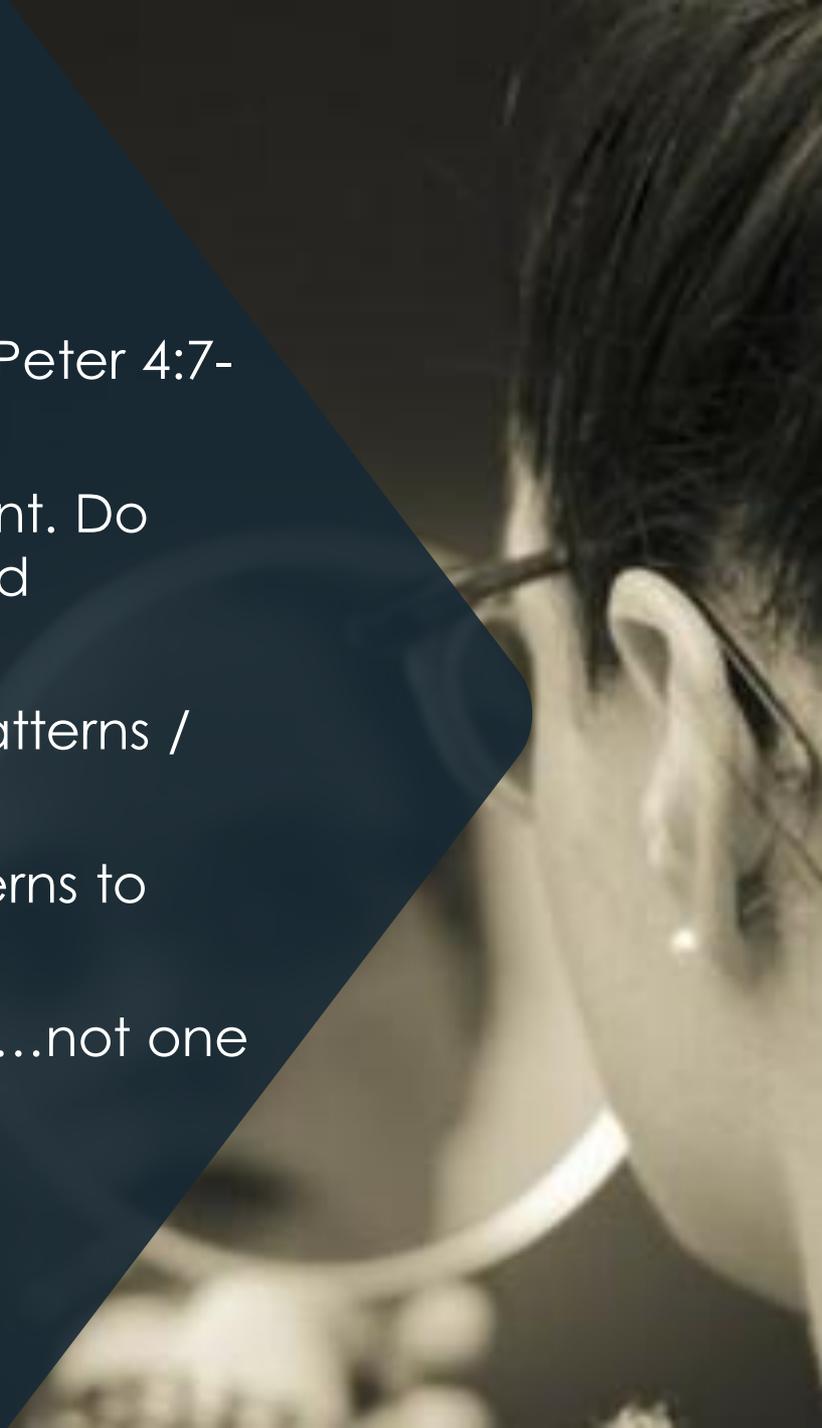
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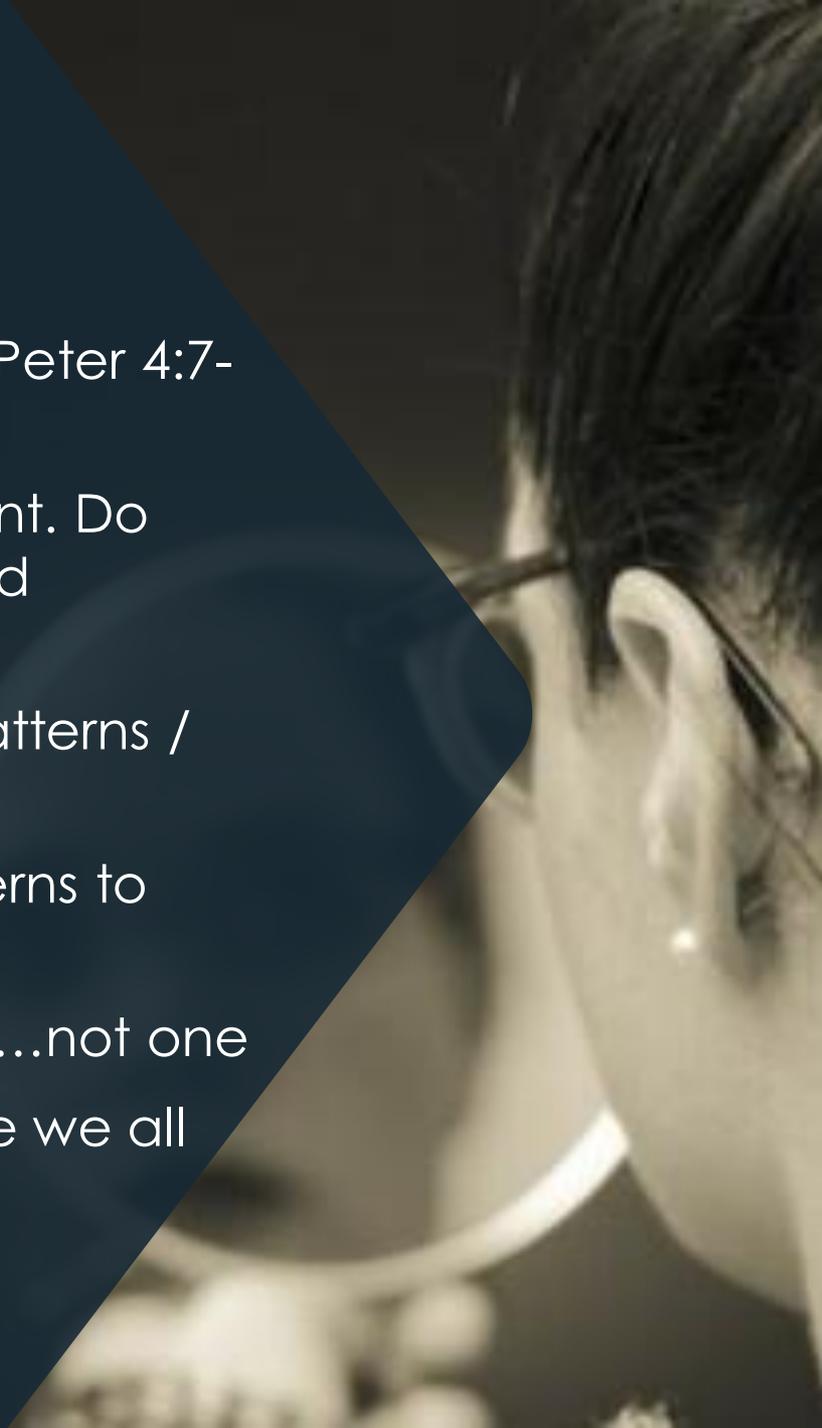
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- ▶ We cannot leave any space for them...not one
- ▶ This is no list of “do(s) or don’t(s)”, since we all have a different sinful nature



How to Self-Control (continue)



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action
plan

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action
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- You must renew your mind (v.23) with the mind of Christ—Studying and expending your mind by acknowledging God (Rom. 13:14)
- And to put on **new habits** (step #6 godliness)

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Conclusion

- ▶ This is a **long** journey...and you will fail here or there. But take Heart: God will always loves you and His mercy is new everyday. (Lam. 3:20-22)



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- Do you actually wants to be more like Jesus?
- All these base on your **faith** in God and that you are longing to experience His **goodness**
- Moreover, all these are based on **knowledge of God** and the **knowledge of self**
- Let's have that game plan started today!