

Jude 1:20-23

Jude 1:20-23 (NASB)

²⁰ **“But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,**

²¹ **keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.**

²² **And have mercy on some, who are doubting;**

²³ **save others, snatching them out of the fire; and on some have mercy with fear, hating even the garment polluted by the flesh.”**

Even though we have already examined some ways in which we can identify false teachers, it is impossible for us to avoid this destructive influence completely. Therefore, it is critical that we reinforce our faith, so we'll be able to stand firm against the subversive pull of the world. But how can we build a stronger faith?

First, we must saturate our minds with the holy, unchanging Word of God. Then the Holy Spirit will continually refresh our minds and bring new insights as we develop Christian maturity.

Second, we must commit to pray in the Holy Spirit ([Ephesians 6:18](#)). We can trust the Spirit to guide us in our prayers, leading us with regard to what, when, and how to pray.

[Ephesians 6:18 \(NASB\)](#)

¹⁸ **“With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints.”**

Third, we must keep ourselves in the love of God. Of course, we can never fall beyond the scope of divine love, but we shouldn't ever take the Lord's amazing grace for granted. With that in mind, we need to guard our closeness with Him, ensuring that we spend uninterrupted time in His presence.

Fourth, we must await the Lord's return eagerly. From the Christian perspective, Jesus' second coming is the most anticipated event in history, and we need to keep our eyes on this goal. The thought that Christ could return at any moment is a purifying and protective realization for the believer ([1 John 3:2-3](#)).

[1 John 3:2-3 \(NASB\)](#)

² **“Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.**

³ **And everyone who has this hope *fixed* on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.”**

There's no **“magic formula”** for spiritual growth, but these simple steps, laid out in [verses 20-23 of Jude](#), can serve as a guide while we strive to protect our faith from the snares of the world.