

## DIVINE NATURE

2 Peter 1:3-4 NIV – His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

### DESCRIPTION

God has given us what we need in order for us to be like Him. Godliness is the reason He created mankind – to reflect His image and His likeness. But since Adam, no one except Jesus has been able to do this fully.

When we believe Jesus, the Holy Spirit dwells in us. This is the same Spirit of the Lord that came upon Mary, causing her to conceive and give birth to the Son of God. The same Spirit that dwelt inside of Jesus to guide Him in a perfect and sinless life now dwells inside of us. We have divine nature inside us.

From the moment the Holy Spirit enters our hearts, a conflict begins between this divine nature and our own corrupt and fleshly desires. As we allow ourselves to be led by divine nature instead of our flesh, we become more and more like Jesus. The Spirit of the Lord within us will give us strength to resist our own urges and replace them with righteous thoughts and actions. The more the Holy Spirit transforms us in this way, the more of God's image we reflect.

Practicing participation in Divine Nature is about becoming increasingly conscious of the Spirit of God dwelling within us and choosing to obey His leadings as superior to our own inclinations.

### PRAYER

Father, thank you for placing your Holy Spirit inside of me to help me become like Jesus. Help me submit to your guidance from within and strengthen me with your power for godliness. In Jesus' name, Amen.



### PURPOSE:

To become increasingly godly and reflect God's image.

To be led by the Holy Spirit in righteous and pure thoughts.

To be empowered by the Holy Spirit for right words and actions.

### SPIRITUAL FRUIT:

Holiness. Christlikeness. Godliness.

Increasing in the fruit of the Spirit listed in Galatians 5:22-23.

Growing evidence of our calling and election through the attributes listed in 2 Peter 1:5-7.

# TALK WITH GOD



Jesus was perfect in all of His thoughts, words, and actions. How does this increase your respect and worship for Him? Tell Him about it.

How have you experienced the conflict between your own desires and what the Holy Spirit within you desires? In your life so far, who has been winning this conflict?

How does knowing that Jesus dwells inside you change your concept of approaching godliness? How does God want you to put this into practice in your life?

How is God inviting you to participate more deeply in His divine nature? What area of your thoughts, words, and actions does Jesus want you to reform right now?

Do you think it is possible for a person to be so renewed by the Holy Spirit that they do not sin? Why or why not? What is God's desire in this?

## PRACTICE

Use the Talk with God points above to have a conversation with God about participating in Divine Nature. Listen to what He is sharing with you. Put into practice what He says to do.

As you go through your day, find a way to regularly remind yourself that Jesus dwells inside of you. When you remember, take a moment to re-center your thoughts on Him. Allow Him to guide and strengthen you from within.

As you engage with others, remember that the Spirit of the Lord dwells inside of you. Turn yourself over to His guidance. How is Jesus engaging with this person? What is Jesus saying to them? It is not "what would Jesus do?" but "what is Jesus doing right now?"... through you!

Journal to Jesus about the areas of your life or times of day when it seems to be more challenging to obey the Holy Spirit rather than your flesh. Seek the Lord for His insight and assistance with this.

**NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURES:

Ephesians 4:23-24

2 Peter 2:20

1 John 3:9

1 John 5:18

Titus 3:5

Romans 7:14-20

Romans 8:1-15

Hebrews 1:3

Galatians 5:17-22