

The Practice of Virtue

by St. Polycarp of Smyrna

Stand firm in your faith, love and care for one another, and exhibit meekness and humility to live a virtuous life.

Scripture: Proverbs 19:17, John 17:17, Galatians 6:2, 1 Thessalonians 5:11, 1 Peter 5:9

Topics: "Christian Character", "Spiritual Growth"

Description

St. Polycarp of Smyrna emphasizes the importance of standing firm in faith, loving one another, and being united in truth. He encourages believers to show meekness, kindness, and generosity towards each other, reminding them of the power of doing good deeds. Polycarp also stresses the need for mutual submission, blameless conduct, and sobriety to reflect the character of the Lord and avoid bringing blasphemy to His name.

Transcript

Stand fast, therefore, in these things, and follow the example of the Lord, being firm and unchangeable in the faith, loving the brotherhood, and being attached to one another, joined together in the truth, exhibiting the meekness of the Lord in your intercourse with one another, and despising no one. When you can do good, defer it not, because "alms delivers from death."

Be all of you subject one to another? having your conduct blameless among the Gentiles," that ye may both receive praise for your good works, and the Lord may not be blasphemed through you. But woe to him by whom the name of the Lord is blasphemed! Teach, therefore, sobriety to all, and manifest it also in your own conduct.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/st-polycarp-of-smyrna/the-practice-of-virtue/>

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