



January 11, 2026 | Matt Magee

Series: Fully Equipped: Pursuing Christian Maturity (2 Peter)

Sermon Title: Everything We Need

Main Scripture: 2 Peter 1:3-4

Introduction

- Illustration: A young man lives as a pauper under a bridge, unaware he is the heir to a massive fortune. He lives in scarcity despite having access to millions.
- Application: Many Christians live in "spiritual poverty," begging God for small drops of strength or peace, or looking to other wells for resources God has already supplied in full.

I. God Has Granted the Complete Resource Inventory for All of Life and Godliness (Verse 3a)

- The Centrality of Verse 3: This verse powers the epistle by defeating the "secret knowledge" heresy (Gnosticism), anchoring moral commands in divine power, and expanding on the "equal standing" of verse 1.
- The Tense: "Has granted" is a perfect tense verb—a past action with permanent results. It is not a future possibility based on behavior; it is a done deal.
- The Scope: "All things" covers every struggle (our view of God and man, anger, financial management, pride, lust, despair, addiction, greed, self-righteousness, insecurity, fear, gluttony, self-harm, marriage problems, communication . . .). We do not have a supply problem; God never issues a command without providing the supply.

II. The Pipeline (Verse 3b)

- The Means: God's power flows not through rituals or feelings, but through a Person (Jesus Christ).
- The Knowledge: The "knowledge" (*epignosis*) mentioned is intimate and relational, not *just* intellectual facts.
- The Pipeline Illustration: God's power is the reservoir; our life is the faucet. The "pipe" is our relationship with Jesus. If we aren't speaking/listening to Him, the pipe clogs, and we run dry regardless of the reservoir's size.

III. The Currency of the Kingdom (Verse 4a)

- The Access Point: We access power by trusting "precious and very great promises."
- Fighting Lies: Sin offers a lie ("this will comfort you"). We fight that lie not with willpower, but with a specific Promise (e.g., Phil 4:19 for anxiety, Heb 13:5 for loneliness).
- The Gospel Connection: The promises are "precious" because they were bought with the blood of Christ.

IV. The Participation (Verse 4b)

- The Result: Living on promises makes us "partakers of the divine nature."
- The Union: We don't become God, but like branches in a vine, His life/sap flows through us (loving as He loves, forgiving as He forgives).
- The Escape: We unplug from the world's battery (which leaks the acid of "sinful desire") and plug into the Divine Nature.

V. Conclusion: Go to the Bank

- Recap: Like the pauper, we have the documents and the signature.
- Call to Action: Put off the pattern of begging God as if He is stingy; or put off the habit of going to the reservoir of the world system. "Go to the bank" (put on) by taking hold of a promise (rightly understood in its context, and faithfully applied (renewing your mind with the Word)) and walking in the power already granted.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Icebreaker: The Unclaimed Gift Have you ever found a gift card, check, or cash you forgot you had? How did it feel to realize you had resources you weren't using?

I. The Inventory (Verse 3a)

- Read: 2 Peter 1:3.
- Discuss: Pastor Matt opened with an illustration of a "Trust Fund Pauper"—someone rich who lives like they are poor. In what specific areas of your life (patience, anxiety, purity) do you feel like you are "scraping by" right now?
- Theology: Peter says God *has granted* (past tense) "all things." Do you tend to view God's power as something you have to earn through good behavior, or something already deposited in your account? How does the "past tense" change your approach to struggling with sin?

II. The Pipeline (Verse 3b)

- Discuss: Pastor Matt mentioned that power flows through "knowledge"—not just facts, but *relationship*.
- Reflection: If your spiritual life was a pipe connecting you to God's reservoir, how "open" is it right now? Is it clogged by lack of prayer, lack of Word, or unconfessed sin? Is it clogged by a lack of willingness to step into different or unfamiliar areas of ministry?
- Application: What is one practical way you can "open the valve" this week? (e.g., specific prayer time, reading a specific book of the Bible).

III. The Currency (Verse 4)

- Concept: "You cannot fight a lie with willpower; you have to fight it with a Promise."
- Exercise: Let's practice this. What are some common lies we believe during the week? (e.g., "I need this purchase to be happy," "God has forgotten me," "My sin is too big").

- Matching: What specific "precious promises" from Scripture counter those lies? (Group can brainstorm verses).

IV. Our Participation as Partakers of the Divine Nature (Verse 4b)

- Deep Dive: What does it mean to be a "partaker of the divine nature"? How is this different from just "following the rules"?
- Visual: Pastor Matt used the image of a battery. The world runs on a battery leaking acid ("sinful desire/corruption"). Christians are plugged into God's Divine Nature. Where do you see the "acid" of the world rotting things around you (culture, relationships, life goals)?

Prayer Split into pairs. Share one "deficiency" you are feeling (lack of patience, hope, etc. (see example list above in the outline, section "I." bullet 3, "The Scope"). Also consider one area that may not be a deficiency, but that where you would like to excel as a maturing Christian. Pray for one another, specifically asking God to help you "make a withdrawal" from the supply He has already granted.