If at first you don't succeed . . .

2 Timothy 2:15 (NKJV) Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

2 Timothy 2:15 (NLT) Work hard so you can present yourself to God and receive his approval. Be a good worker, one who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly explains the word of truth.

John 8:44 (NKJV) You are of *your* father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources,* for he is a liar and the father of it.

Romans 6:6 (NKJV) knowing this, that our old man was crucified with *Him,* that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

Galatians 2:20 (NKJV) 20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV) 17Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a ***new*** creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become ***new***.

2 Peter 1:1–4 (NKJV) Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ: 2 Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, 3 as His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, 4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption *that is* in the world through lust.

There is a very important distinction between possessing the sin nature and being sin free.

Romans 7:19–25 (NKJV) [19] For the good that I ***will*** *to do,* (***want to do***) I do not do; but the evil I will not *to do,* that I practice. [20] Now if I do what I will not *to do,* it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me. [21] I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good. [22] For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. [23] But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my ***members***. [24] O wretched man that I am! ***Who*** will deliver me from this body of death? [25] I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with the ***mind*** I myself serve the law of God, but with the ***flesh*** the law of sin.

Ephesians 4:22–24 (NKJV) [22] that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man (old sinful nature NLT) which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, [23] and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, [24] and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

Colossians 3:9–10 (NLT) [9] Don't lie to each other, for you have stripped off your (old man NKJV) old sinful nature and all its wicked deeds. [10] Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him.

2 Peter 1:1–2 (NKJV) Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ: [2] Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord,

2 Peter 1:2 (NKJV) Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord,

Proverbs 4:18 (NIV) The path of the righteous is like the morning
sun, shining ever brighter till the full light of day.

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2 Peter 1:3 (NKJV) as His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,

His Divine Power, His Divine Nature **given** to you in order that you might lead an abundant life full of Godliness growing in the knowledge of Who Christ is.

2 Peter 1:4 (NKJV) by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption *that is* in the world through lust.

Ephesians 2:1 - 3 (NKJV) [1]And you *He made alive,* who were dead in trespasses and sins, [2]in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, [3]among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and **were** by nature ***children of wrath***, just as the others.

Galatians 6:7–8 (NKJV) [7] Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. [8] For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.