

Tenets of Taekwondo

Courtesy (Ye Ui) - behavior that demonstrates consideration, cooperation, and generosity

Integrity (Yom Chi) - honesty, trustworthiness, and incorruptibility

Perseverance (In Nae) - determination, steadfastness, persisting in spite of difficulties

Self-Control (Guk Gi) - exercising restraint over one's impulses, self-discipline

Indomitable Spirit (Baekjool Boolgool) - unconquerable courage, a "yes I can" attitude

In any textbook on Taekwondo, or "Student Handbook" you will see The Five Tenets of Taekwondo:

More than just words, these "doctrines" provide a framework - not just for Dojang behavior, but for life.

As Christians, we too have "behaviors" to be followed. And one of the best passages from the Bible gives a "blueprint for life".

2nd Peter 1, Verses 3 through 11 says: [Heading - Making One's Calling and Election Sure]

- 3 *His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.*
- 4 *Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.*
- 5 *For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge;*
- 6 *and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness;*
- 7 *and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love.*
- 8 *For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.*
- 9 *But if anyone does not have them, he is nearsighted and blind, and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his past sins.*
- 10 *Therefore, my brothers, be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never fall,*
- 11 *and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

Notice Verses 5 through 7. Peter lists the virtues a Christian must develop in order to be spiritually victorious and fruitful before God (Verse 8).

Now, notice the similarity between the key words in these Verses, and the Five Tenets of Taekwondo? (Beyond the words of course.)

Taekwondo, as with most Martial Arts, is symbolized by etiquette and respect. The Five Tenets amplify these concepts, and define the qualities necessary (the spirit) of a Martial Artist.

The above Verses from 2nd Peter define the virtues we as Born Again Believers ascribe to meet.

To that end, these "qualities" are our Christian Tenets.