

The Christian Life

Lesson 10: 1 Peter 2:2-3; 2 Peter 3:18; 1 Corinthians 3:1-4;

Ephesians 4:17-24

August 5, 2018

Review study

- The Bible
- The Godhead
- Creation
- Salvation
- The Christian Life
- The Christians Three Enemies
- The Church
- The Last Things

Outline

- Doctrine
- Practice

1 Peter 2:2-3

²like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation, ³if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord.

- Picture of mature growth
- We are commanded to desire milk
- God causes us to grow
- We need to grow because we realize God's kindness to us

2 Peter 3:18

¹⁸but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him *be* the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

- We are commanded to grow
- Areas of growth
 - In the grace of our Lord
 - In the knowledge of our Lord
- Growth should never stop

1 Corinthians 3:1-4

¹And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men of flesh, as to infants in Christ.

²I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able *to receive it*. Indeed, even now you are not yet able, ³for you are still fleshly. For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly, and are you not walking like mere men? ⁴For when one says, "I am of Paul," and another, "I am of Apollos," are you not *mere* men?

- Picture of immaturity
- Flesh ≠ Spirit
- Milk ≠ solid food
- Men ≠ Christians
- The fleshly are not ready for solid food

Ephesians 4:17-19

¹⁷So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, ¹⁸being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; ¹⁹and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.

- Christians are to differ from the world
- The walk of unbelievers
 - Mentally
 - Futile
 - Darkened
 - Physically
 - Callous
 - Given over to sensuality
- They are excluded from the life of God

Ephesians 4:20-24

²⁰But you did not learn Christ in this way, ²¹if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, ²²that, in reference to your former manner of life, you **lay aside** the **old self**, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, ²³and that you **be renewed** in the spirit of your mind, ²⁴and **put on** the **new self**, which in *the likeness of* God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

- **Lay aside**
 - Old self
 - Being corrupted
- **Be renewed**
- **Put on**
 - New self
 - Created in
 - Righteousness
 - Holiness of the truth

Grow

- Bible reading
 - About 15 minutes a day is needed to read the Bible in a year
 - Read large portions to get a better overview
 - Read smaller portions to meditate on
- Memorization
- The Holy Spirit
 - Our Teacher
 - We are to be filled with the Spirit and walk by the Spirit
 - We are not to grieve the Spirit

Grow

- Prayer
 - Acknowledgement of our dependence
 - We are to pray continually
 - Types of prayer
 1. worship – adoring the Trinity
 2. praise/thanksgiving – thanking God for physical and spiritual blessings
 3. confession – seeking forgiveness and cleansing from sin
 4. intercession – praying for others
 5. petition – praying for our own needs

Prayers from the epistles

- Romans 1:8-12
- 1 Corinthians 1:4-9
- Ephesians 1:15-19
- Ephesians 3:14-21
- Philippians 1:3-11
- Colossians 1:9-14
- Colossians 4:12
- 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3
- 1 Thessalonians 3:11-13
- 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24
- 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17
- 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12
- Philemon 4-7
- Hebrews 13:20-21
- 1 Peter 5:10

Grow

- Fellowship
 - We are the body of Christ
 - Our spiritual gifts are to be used together
- Service to the saints
 - God can use us to bring blessing to others
 - Physical
 - Spiritual
 - Deeply love all believers
- Mortification
 - Actively put sin to death

Summary

- Desire spiritual growth
- We are commanded to grow
- We are no longer to walk as unbelievers
- Put off the old self
- Put on the new self
- We are to be renewed in the spirit of our minds