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

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

1 And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men of flesh, as to infants in Christ. 2 I 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, 3 for 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? 4 For 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

17 So 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, 18 being 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; 19 and 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

20 But you did not learn Christ in this way, 21 if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, 22 that, 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, 23 and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and 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