

Reading the Bible

And that from a babe you have known the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise unto salvation through the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

2 Timothy 3:15

1. To grow

1 Peter 2:2-3

As newborn babes, long for the guileless milk of the word in order that by it you may grow unto salvation, if you have tasted that the Lord is good.

2. To receive the divine provision

(a) Breath

2 Timothy 3:16a

All Scripture is God-breathed...

(b) Food

Matthew 4:4

But He answered and said, It is written, "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out through the mouth of God."

(c) Light

Psalms 119:105

Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.

3. To contact the living Person of Christ

John 5:39-40

You search the Scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is these that testify concerning Me. Yet you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.

2 Corinthians 3:15-16

Indeed unto this day, whenever Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart; but whenever *their heart* turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.

Reading the Bible

To grow

According to Peter's word in verse 2, we should long for the guileless milk of the word so that by it we may grow. To grow is a matter of life and in life. We received the divine life through regeneration, and we need to grow in this life by being nourished with the milk conveyed in the Word of God.

Many Christians think that to grow is to gain more knowledge. This concept of growth, however, is altogether contrary to that in the New Testament. According to the New Testament, growth is the genuine increase in the measure of life. Knowledge does not help us to increase in the measure of life.

How do children grow? They grow by receiving nourishment. If an infant has a healthy diet and daily is given nourishing food, gradually he will grow. This growth is the increase from all the food taken into him. Eventually, as a full-grown adult, this one will be a composition of what he has eaten. Perhaps at birth he weighed only six pounds. But when he is full-grown, he may be a man weighing one hundred eighty pounds. He has experienced the real growth in life, the growth that comes from eating healthy food, digesting it, and assimilating it into his cells so that it becomes the very fibers of his being. This is an illustration of genuine growth in life.

We need to desire the guileless milk of the word so that by it we may have real growth in life. True growth is the increase of the measure of life. If we are growing in life, the life element within us will increase, and there will be an increase in our spiritual stature (Eph. 4:13).¹

To receive the divine provision

Breath

2 Timothy 3:16 says that all Scripture is God-breathed. Therefore, whenever we come to the Bible, we enter into God's breath and even God's breathing. As believers, we can all testify that every time we contact the Bible, we are in the presence of God. Whenever we come to the Bible, we

immediately have the sensation that we have come into God's presence.

That God's presence accompanies the Bible is logical. One's breath is always near one's face. When we come into a person's breath, we come into that person's presence. Because the Bible is God's breath, God's presence always accompanies it, for His presence is always with His breath. God is mysterious, universal, and eternal, but we can find His breath in the Bible, for the Bible is His breath. We need to realize that the Bible we hold is simply God's breath and that where God's breath is, there His presence is. Whenever we come to the Bible, we should have the assurance that we are entering into God's presence.²

Food

According to the entire revelation in the Holy Bible, God's words are good for us to eat, and we need to eat them (Psa. 119:103; Matt. 4:4; Heb. 5:12-14; 1 Pet. 2:2-3). God's word is the divine supply as food to nourish us. Through the word as our food, God dispenses His riches into our inner being to nourish us that we may be constituted with His element. This is a crucial aspect of God's economy. When we eat God's words, His word becomes our heart's gladness and joy (Jer. 15:16).³

The Word of God is our spiritual life supply. Matthew 4:4 says, "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out through the mouth of God." God's words are more important than food. A man who lives only on physical food, not on God's Word, will not fulfill God's desire. It is not enough for a person to live on food; he must also live on every word that proceeds out through the mouth of God. A proper person cannot live only on physical food; he must also feed on God's word. There is a great difference between those who feed on God's word and those who do not. Most people care for eating only the physical food. They neglect God's word, because they do not know that God's word is the food that man needs. The Lord Jesus' words in Matthew 4:4 show that God's word is bread, our food.

Key Verses

1 Peter
2:2-3

As newborn babes, long for the guileless milk of the word in order that by it you may grow unto salvation, if you have tasted that the Lord is good.

2 Timothy
3:16

All Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for conviction, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

Matthew
4:4

But He answered and said, It is written, "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out through the mouth of God."

Jeremiah
15:16

Your words were found and I ate them, and Your word became to me the gladness and joy of my heart, for I am called by Your name, O Jehovah, God of hosts.

John 5:39-
40

You search the Scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is these that testify concerning Me. Yet you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.

2 Cor.
3:16

But whenever their heart turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.

**Where can we find
Christ today? In our
spirit and in the Bible**

Additional Daily Verses

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
2 Tim. 3:16-17	1 Peter 2:2-3	Matthew 4:4 Jeremiah 15:16	Psalm 119:105, 130	John 5:39-40	2 Cor. 3:16-18	Psalm 119:103

Weekly Memorization Verses

1 Peter 2:2-3

As newborn babes, long for the guileless milk of the word in order that by it you may grow unto salvation, if you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Matthew 4:4

But He answered and said, It is written, "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out through the mouth of God."