

*"And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto **babes in Christ**. I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able. For ye are yet carnal: For whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?" **1 Corinthians 3:1-3 KJV***



Babies need everything done for them. Their food must be prepared for them for they have no teeth to chew nor the ability to swallow anything not in liquid form. Most believers are “babes” in Christ. They do not have the ability to prepare their own spiritual food. Sure, they recognize Father and respond to the sound of His voice, but to prepare and eat of the Lord’s bounty is not an ability they possess. “Dependent” is the word which best describes babes in Christ. There is a certain responsibility involved in leading someone to Christ. Upon conversion, they must be discipled in Truth. How to learn, what to learn, how to walk, how to talk, who to talk to, what to say, and etc. Jesus said, *“Go ye therefore, and TEACH all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: TEACHING THEM TO OBSERVE ALL THINGS WHATSOEVER I HAVE COMMANDED YOU.”* Paul instructed Timothy, *“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth. BE THOU AN EXAMPLE of the believers, in word, in conversation (lifestyle), in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Rebuke not an elder, but intreat him as a father; and the younger men as brethren; the elder women as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity. Honour widows that are widows indeed.”* In other words, “Practice what you teach.” Peter wrote, *“Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.”* Of course, we are all dependent on God, but the older are able to take care of the younger. God’s Word has the ingredients to make a satisfying meal or a sumptuous desert. Then there’s the laundry. *“He which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins. And above all things have fervent charity (love) among yourselves: for charity shall cover (love doesn’t gossip) the multitude of sins.”* Jesus told us, *“Now ye are clean through the Word which I have spoken unto you.”* Reading AND meditating on God’s Word is rare. Many read, but few meditate. We are instructed: *“This Book of the Law (God’s Word) shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt MEDITATE THEREIN DAY AND NIGHT, that thou mayest observe TO DO according to ALL that is written therein.”* Puzzled by your lack of success? Connect the dots! Meditation is like chewing. If improperly or not done, nutrients are not extracted. If you don’t eat, including the bits you dislike, you starve. Swallow without chewing, you choke. Learn from good nutrition habits how to get the most from God’s Word!

Read and meditate ev’ry day,  
That strong and vital you may stay,  
God’s Word is meat so that you may,  
Prosper well upon your way. ~CGP

You need God’s Word as often as you need food. Born again is only the start. Grow up! Get off the bottle!

*"Ye therefore, beloved, SEEING YE KNOW these things before, BEWARE lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness. But GROW IN GRACE, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and for ever. Amen." 2 Peter 3:17-18 KJV*