

Growing By God's Word

- I. A Purified Person's Beginning (1 Peter 1:22-25)
 - A. Hearing God's good news preached (1 Pet. 1:25b)
 - B. Obeying the truth of God's Word (1 Pet. 1:22a)
 - C. Being born again through the living and abiding Word of God (1 Pet. 1:23 & 3)
 - 1. Not of perishable seed – born of the flesh, parents (Jn. 3:6a)
 - 2. Of imperishable seed – born of the Spirit, God (Jn. 3:6b)
 - 3. Metaphor (1 Pet. 1:24-25a) – flesh & grass/flower with God's Word
 - D. Loving one another (1 Pet. 1:22b; 1 Jn. 3:14)
- II. A Purified Person's Continued Growth (1 Pet. 2:1-3)
 - A. Put away the things that disrupt relationships and hinder growth (1 Pet. 2:1)
 - 1. All malice
 - 2. All deceit
 - 3. Hypocrisy
 - 4. Envy
 - 5. All slander
 - 6. Believers have the ability to put evil things away (Rom. 6:11, 14)
 - B. Long for the spiritual milk of God's Word (1 Pet. 2:2)
 - 1. Like newborn infants
 - a. Not an indicator of maturity as in 1 Corinthians 3:2 & Hebrews 5:12-13
 - b. Applies to both younger and older believers
 - 2. Crave or long for God's Word
 - a. Encouraging us to hunger for God's Word in order to grow well
 - b. Through the Word of God we taste that the Lord is good (1 Pet. 2:3)
 - c. Different ways to come to God's Word:
 - 1) Read the Bible consistently
 - 2) Read the Bible prayerfully
 - 3) Study God's Word
 - 4) Memorize God's Word
 - 5) Devotions
 - 6) Meditate on God's Word
 - 7) Sing God's Word
 - 8) Google God's Word
 - 3. Carefully search & inquire in God's Word (1 Pet. 1:10-12)
 - C. Knowing & standing upon God's promises in the Bible (2 Pet. 1:4, 19; 1 Pet. 1:25a)