

## 2 Peter 3:18

*but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.*

If you have kids or even know someone who has kids, you realize how quickly they grow up. I know there are people I have not seen for 5 or 10 years and then I see them and next thing I know, their kids are all grown up and going to collage or getting married, if not married already.

It seems the days go quicker the older you get, and with that, it seems people get older and older as the days go on. But you know what? Christians do not grow day by day, but rather they grow word by word.

*“Uh, you lost me Steve?”*

Let’s see if God’s word can explain it a little better.

† **Heb 5:12-14** *For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.*

If you starve yourself physically and emotionally, you will never grow. Sure you can eat food and grow physically, but if you never talk, or go to school, or engage in intellectual conversation with others, you will just grow up to be ignorant, so much so that you would need someone to take care of you the rest of your life.

It’s the same with the Christian walk; you can read the bible all you want, but if you don’t study it, and apply it to your life, and go to church, and bible studies to learn more, you are just growing, but never becoming a full mature Christian, you will always be a little baby Christian.

Yes, reading the bible is a great thing and maybe you have made that New Years resolution to read through the bible this year, and I commend you on that and would encourage you to keep on, even if you fall behind, still keep at it.

I know for whatever reason there have been times when I don’t read all the chapters I should on a particular day, but I always try to make up on the next day and keep up when this happens. But don’t get discouraged, even if you don’t make it through the bible in a year, just vow to read some of it each day.

But also along with that vow to study the bible or go to church every week. Also pray about joining a bible study/Home Group, and read books that teach the bible. Also consider going to teachings, such as here, so that you won’t be this little baby Christian ten years from now, but will be growing Word by Word as you read His word.

† **Heb 6:1 (NLT)** *So let us stop going over the basics of Christianity again and again. Let us go on instead and become mature in our understanding. Surely we don't need to start all over again with the importance of turning away from evil deeds and placing our faith in God.*