

Deuteronomy 8:3

So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD.

A few years ago during the Covid pandemic, my niece posted something on social media that I thought was funny, yet so true:

*“I know Y’all think I’m OK.
But deep down I just wanna go eat at a Mexican restaurant again.”*

I don’t know about you, but I love Mexican food. I could live on Mexican food and Pizza and nothing else for the rest of my life. But with all that was going on during the pandemic, the best we could do was order take out or drive through a fast-food restaurant while wearing masks.

But here is something to think about over this week.

If all the restaurants were shut down, would we starve? No, because we can cook at home.

If all the churches could not broadcast live services, would you starve spiritually?

Our answer should be the same as it would for food, which is no, because we can read and study God’s word ourselves at home, just like we can cook at home.

But during the pandemic, how many were starving themselves spiritually every week because of it? Even now, how many only go to church once a week, and that’s all the spiritual food they get? What if we ate only once a week? How long would it take before we ended up in a hospital because of our poor eating habits and malnutrition?

“Hey, I read a devotional every day, so I am feeding on the word every day.”

That’s like saying I eat a granola bar each day, Monday through Saturday, then one meal on Sunday. Just as we cook and prepare meals for ourselves, we must do more than nibble on a devotional from God’s word once a day. Devotionals like this one are good for us, because it gives us more in God’s word to help us out each day, just like a granola bar does. But it should never replace our time alone with the Lord in His word, just like a granola bar should not replace our meals (breakfast, lunch & dinner) each day. We need to get in there and read the Bible for ourselves.

If you have never read through the bible, then you have no idea what you are missing out on. You will find things that will shock you, and things that will make you laugh. Things that would make you cry and angry and happy and excited and inspired and fall in love more and more with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

Just like if all we ate were granola bars, how many wonderful foods would we be missing out on, like Mexican food, Italian food, Sushi, steak, eggs, pancakes, hamburgers, fries, shakes, salads (yes some like salads lol) and so many other great foods out there. So if we only eat a granola bar once a day, we will miss out on all those great meals God has prepared for us in His word as we feast on God's word.

† **Hebrews 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.*

† **Psalm 119:103** *How sweet are Your words to my taste, Sweeter than honey to my mouth!*