

## Hebrews 5:12

***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.***

When I got married a few years ago, it was during the Covid pandemic, so people could not come to our wedding but instead we had it live streamed, as well as had a photographer there to capture it all. And after we got married we watched the video as well as having the picture sent to us from the photographer, which we looked at and remembered how wonderful that it was when we got them.

But you know what, I (we) do not go back and re-watch the video everyday, nor do we pour over the pictures all the time, because even though the wedding was great, after you get married you do have to move beyond that, because there is so much more to learn about one another.

But how many become a Christian and are stuck at the cross, and what Jesus did on the cross? Now don't get me wrong, it's the cross and the empty tomb that are the key points to why we are saved, so I do not want to belittle the cross in any way. Yet, once you become a Christian, there is so much more than the cross, and you learn that by getting into God's word every day and in prayer. Then you move on into serving in the church and helping others out, and you grow and grow as a Christian.

Yet some have been a Christian for a few months, or even years, and you are still stuck at the cross, never maturing as a Christian. That's what today's devotional verse is talking about. Let's read it again, along with the next two verses.

† **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.*

Many are stuck at the cross, once again because they do not mature as a Christian, so they continually fall into sin and all they know is the cross. But as you move past the cross and into maturity, you learn how not to sin. Sure you will sin, but a lot less as you learn more and more. Just like Paul says in verse 14: ***“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.”*** (underlined for emphasis) and the way to get your “*senses exercised*” is by reading the Bible.

Once again, as you mature, you never forget about the cross, just like in my marriage, I will not forget the day we were married. And every once in a while we will go back and look at pictures

to remind us of that love that started out our marriage. We do the same this as Christians, and that's by taking communion. Even Jesus said. "*And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." Luke 22:19* (underlined for emphasis)

We are not to forget the cross and what Jesus did on the cross for us, but I think Jesus wanted us to mature as well, so He said "*do this in remembrance of Me*" meaning to grow in the Lord, but don't forget what He did on the cross for you and us all as believers.

So, for some of you, it's time to grow up (mature) in your walk with the Lord. You need to start getting into the word everyday, and being in prayer and serving the Lord. And the only way you can mature, is to get your thumb out of your mouth and use it to turn the pages as you get into the word.

- † **Hebrews 5:12 (NLT2)** *You have been believers so long now that you ought to be teaching others. Instead, you need someone to teach you again the basic things about God's word. You are like babies who need milk and cannot eat solid food.*
  
- † **Psalm 119:103** *How sweet are Your words to my taste, Sweeter than honey to my mouth!*