

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.

I recently got married a little over a month ago. It was wonderful to marry someone God had brought into my life. There is a story in itself behind how it all happened and how God brought us together. But that is not for today's devotional.

Instead, when we got married, there were only a few people there because of Covid-19, but we did a live stream of the wedding, as well as had a photographer there to capture it all. And yes, we have did re-watch the video after we got married, and we had the picture sent to us, which we looked at and remembered how wonderful that it was when we got them. I even have a picture from the wedding on my iPad as well as on my social media page.

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. One example is, as Christian's we did this right, so the night of our wedding was the first time we slept together or even lived together, so there is that part. But also there are so many other things that you learn about one another over the years. If you are married, or ever have been married, then you know what I am talking about.

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 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 then 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 to not 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, 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.

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!*