

I Peter 2:1-3

Part 2



got milk?[®]

SUMMARY OF TODAY'S MESSAGE

Babies need milk to survive and to thrive. And newborn babies need and crave it a lot. So too, those who have been spiritually born-again need spiritual milk so that they can grow and be mature. As believers grow, they will begin to enjoy more solid spiritual food.

SUMMARY OF TODAY'S MESSAGE

But here Peter is addressing our *appetites*? Those things we desire and crave.

He gives us a three-part instruction that will curb and train our appetites in such a way that maximum growth will be achieved.

THREE WAYS TO ENHANCE YOUR SPIRITUAL APPETITE

Be Mindful of What You've Tasted (v. 3)

There is encouragement in the Bible for those who
delight in God's Word, God's truth

Blessed is the man whose delight is in God's Word
(see Psalm 1)

Job said His words were more important than necessary food
(see Job 23:12)

THREE WAYS TO ENHANCE YOUR SPIRITUAL APPETITE

God's Words brought joy and rejoicing to Jeremiah's
heart

(see Jeremiah 15:16)

Psalms 119 has 184 references to the Scripture, the
Word of God, and the testimonies of God "Your
statutes are my delight" (Psalms 119:24)

The theme of salvation: delight in, crave after,
desire the Word of God

The first response to salvation toward God is that we
be holy

A second response to salvation is to love one another

The third response to salvation is that we would crave
this food (His Word) in order that we might grow

Here's how we grow spiritually:

Appetizer—taste it, it's so good, you are going to want
more

Don't be tempted by junk food—push that aside

Make room for the main course

Be mindful, be careful, be faithful

Here's how we grow spiritually:

If indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious, put
aside the bad stuff

David said, "O, taste and see that the Lord is good"
(Psalm 34)

When you've tasted God's goodness, you're going to
want more

God tastes better than sin

II. Be Careful to Avoid Junk-Food (v. 1)

Some things will make you lose your appetite

Relational sins—horizontal sins that will take away
your appetite for vertical truth

Food should give you the nutrients you need in order
to grow

II. Be Careful to Avoid Junk-Food (v. 1)

Five junk foods

Malice—ill will; a complaining, grumpy person
(see Matthew 12:34)

II. Be Careful to Avoid Junk-Food (v. 1)

Five junk foods

Deceit—to bait a hook; fishing is deceiving fish; cover
the hook

with something the fish like to eat

Five Junk Foods to Avoid

Hypocrisy—to wear a mask; hypocrites pretend to be something they are not

Envy—what goes on in your heart when someone else is blessed; or you're joyful that some misfortune happened to another person

II. Be Careful to Avoid Junk-Food (v. 1)

Evil speaking or slander—gossip, backbiting, rumor;
it could be a raise eyebrow,
it could be a sentence you left unfinished

II. Be Careful to Avoid Junk-Food (v. 1)

When you forget how gracious God has been to you,
you start getting ungracious toward others

Your bitterness will kill your appetite for His
sweetness, or His sweetness will kill your bitterness
and dispel it

III. Be Faithful to Feed on Truth (v. 2)

Peter uses this metaphor about babies and milk to encourage them to crave God's truth like a baby craves milk

Desire, crave; *epipotheó* in Greek



III. Be Faithful to Feed on Truth (v. 2)

What do you crave?

What is your spiritual appetite?

On a scale of one to ten evaluate your own
spiritual hunger

III. Be Faithful to Feed on Truth (v. 2)

Jesus said, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, they will be filled" (Matthew 5:6)

J.C.Penney

“Show me a stock clerk with a goal and I’ll show you a man who will make history. But show me a man without a goal and I’ll show you a stock clerk.”

III. Be Faithful to Feed on Truth (v. 2)

passion: crave, desire, yearning

You cannot grow spiritually without a steady diet of
God's Word

Ask yourself: "Am I in the same place spiritually that I
was a year ago or five years ago?"

Why?

III. Be Faithful to Feed on Truth (v. 2)

"All Scripture is inspired by God and useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives" (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Scripture is God's way of preparing us in every way—
fully-equipped for every good thing God wants us to
do

Final Thoughts

You were given the appetizer when you were first saved—He tastes so good

Don't feed on junk food—it'll take away your spiritual appetite

Clear your plate for the real food—the vertical, spiritual stuff

Some common Christian philosophies in regards to church

I'll show up and occupy the seat: "I went to church"

Others will dress up, show up and listen up:

"I listened to the sermon"

Some common Christian philosophies in regards to church

Take it another step—grow up; you can be a spiritual
giant, or a spiritual midget—it's directly proportionate
to your desire

I'm so glad I'm
a part of the family
Of God

I've been washed in the
Fountain, cleansed by His
Blood

Joint heirs with Jesus as
We travel this sod, for I'm
Part of the family,
The Family of God

*Church is not
something you
go to.*

*↖ ↘
It's a family you
belong to.*

