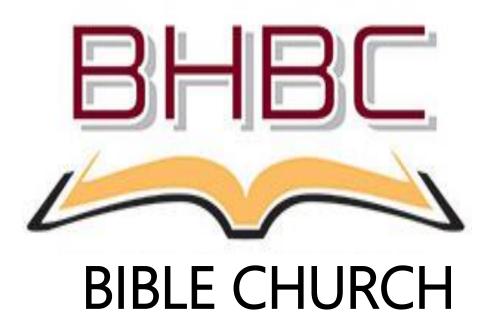
BLESSED HOPE



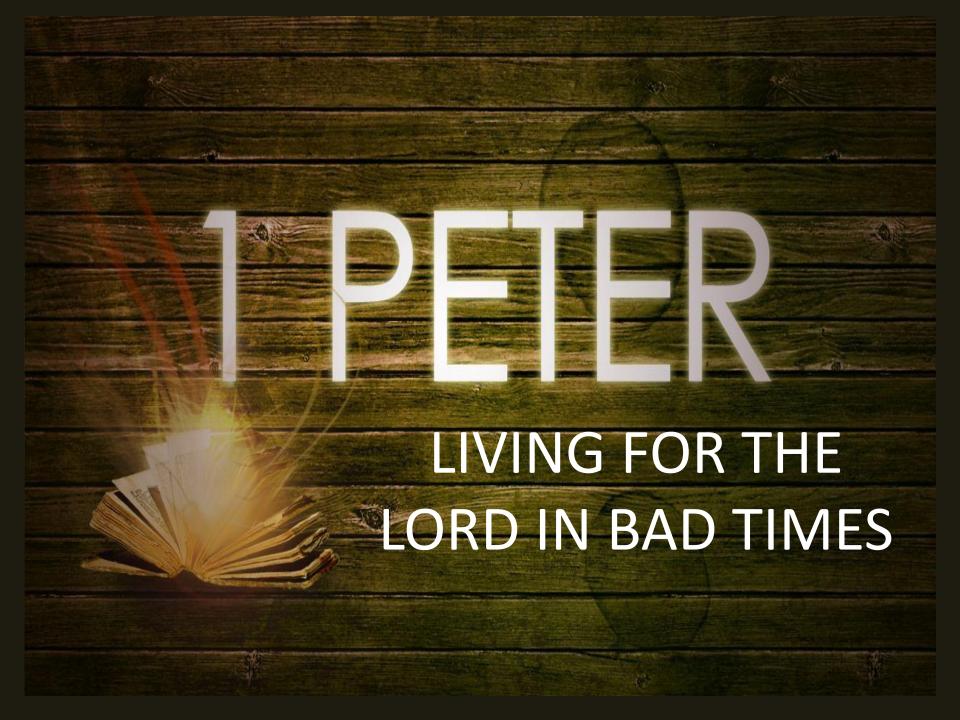
Learning of Christ, Loving in Christ, Leaning on Christ, Living for Christ, Leading to Christ

Based on the Word of God

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Most Popular Father's Day Sayings

- By the time a man realizes that maybe his father was right, he usually has a son who thinks he's wrong.
- Any man can be a father but it takes someone special to be a dad. Anne Goddes
- A truly rich man is one whose children run into his arms when his hands are empty. Author Unknown
- It doesn't matter who my father was;
 it matters who I remember he was.
 - 5 It is easier for a father to have children than for children to have a real father.
 - A father is a banker provided by nature.
 - You know, fathers just have a way of putting everything together. The Coston
 - The greatest gift I ever had came from God; I call him Dad!
 - A father carries pictures where his money used to be.
- Once a father overheard his son pray: Dear God, make me the kind of man my daddy is. Later that night, the father prayed. Dear God, Make me the kind of man my son wants



DESIRE THE PURE MILK OF THE WORD 1 PETER 2:1-3



- THE CONTEXT: The basic theme of 1 Peter is the proper response of a believer in Christ in times of suffering and difficulties.
- THE PARADOX: All of us will face various kinds of difficulties and problems in life, however, the problem is NOT the difficulties we face BUT how we respond to difficult situations.
- THE PRINCIPLE: The believer in Christ has the anticipation of a eternal inheritance that gives strength, encouragement and hope even in the most difficult times. In light of this, God wants the believer to be holy in all his conduct.
- THE PRACTICALITY: To be holy in all conduct includes growing in the faith by a strong desire for the word of God. From 1Peter 2:1-3 we will look at three prerequisites that motivate a believer to have a strong desire for the word of God.

PREREQUISITE #1: THE BELIEVER MUST BE <u>PREPARED</u> TO RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD. 1 Peter 2:1



- The Believer Must Lay Aside All Malice (e.g., Malice is the willful intention to abuse and see hurt, harm or danger to another person out of spite or ill will).
- The Believer Must Lay Aside All Deceit (e.g., deceit, or guile, is the willful intention to lie, intentionally give false information, or engage in a dishonest act, in order to cause another person loss, sorrow, or misfortune).



- The Believer Must Lay Aside All Hypocrisy (e.g., Hypocrisy is lying and deception in action when one pretends to be what one is really not).
- The Believer Must Lay Aside All Envy (e.g., Envy is the willful intention to resent, be very angry at, or jealous at another person's possessions, achievements, or recognition).
- The Believer Must Lay Aside All Evil Speaking (e.g., Evil speaking is the willful intention to use slander, ridicule, verbal abuse, destructive criticism for the purpose of falsifying, misrepresenting, lying, injuring, or defaming the reputation of another).



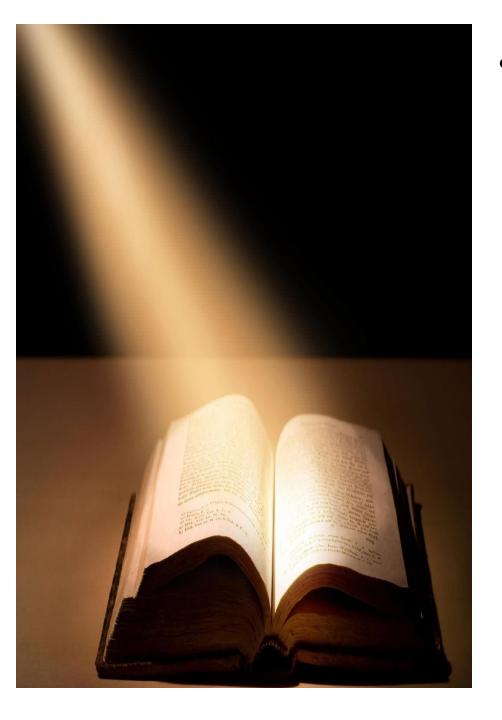
 Note carefully: If malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and evil speaking is in one's life and conduct, one is not ready to receive nor grow by the word of God!

PREREQUISITE #2: THE BELIEVER MUST HAVE A PURPOSE FOR RECEIVING THE WORD OF GOD.

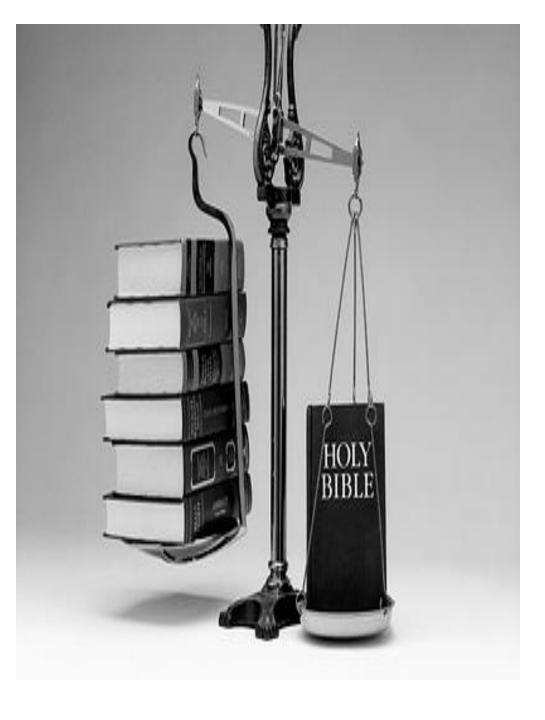
1 Peter 2:2



- Spiritual Growth is the Goal of the Believer (e.g., the goal of the believer is NOT to obtain salvation, complete salvation, or maintain salvation—that salvation has been receive and is complete through faith in Christ, and is maintained by the power of God)
- The Word of God is the Means to that Goal (e.g., it is NOT religious or church association, legalism, ritualism, or emotionalism)



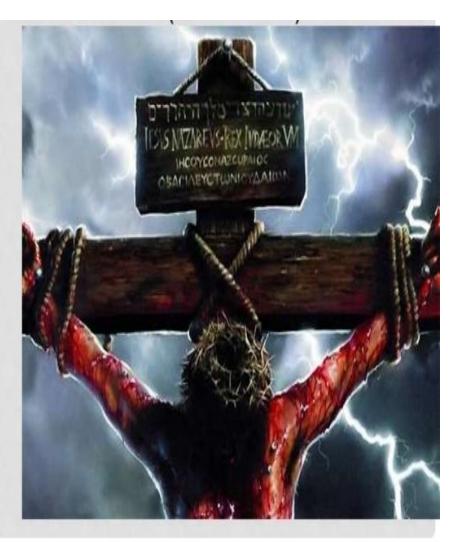
- In order to grow, a believer must have a strong desire for the word of God just a newborn baby has a strong desire for mother's milk.
 - Remember: The believer was saved by hearing the word of God.
 - Note carefully: A
 believer grows by
 learning from the word
 of God



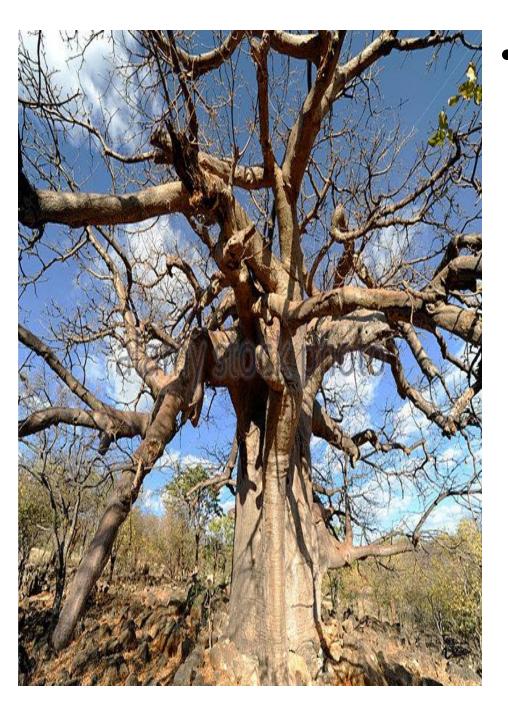
- Remember: The Word of God lives and abides forever, regardless of being
 - Attacked
 - rejected
 - questioned
 - challenged
 - Neglected
 - or disobeyed by men!

PREREQUISITE #3: THE BELIEVER MUST HAVE PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED THE GRACE OF GOD.

1 Peter 2:3



- In Order to Grow by the Word of God, One must First have Experienced the Grace of God in the New Birth!!
 - One must hear the gospel message
 - One must recognize one's sins based on the gospel message
 - One must turn to Christ in faith based on the gospel message



Without Spiritual Birth, Spiritual Growth is not Possible!!

- In order to live the Christian life, one must first be a Christian
- In order to grow in the Christian life, one must be taught from the word of God-there is no substitute.

A CHALLENGE FOR YOU

 What will motivate you to have a passion for the word of God?



RECEIVE THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR SAVIOUR TODAY!!



- 1. Acknowledge that the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, <u>died</u> on the cross for your sin, and that He <u>arose</u> again from the dead on the third day.
- 2. Admit that you are a sinner, guilty of sin and responsible and accountable to a holy God for your sin, and that you are under His just condemnation and eternal punishment for your sin.
- **3. Accept** the Lord Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour by **receiving** His provision of salvation through your faith in Him alone.