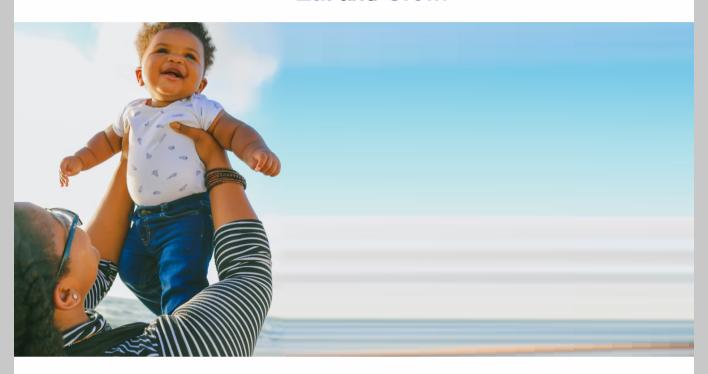




WORD OF THE DAY (1st Peter 2:1-3)

"Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious."

Eat and Grow.



Properties of Life. It is good to be alive! There are many properties and signs that indicate the presence of life. Being alive in human terms means that we have a heartbeat, we are able to receive oxygen so that our cells can live, and we have the opportunity to interact with the surrounding world. A newborn baby's life is evident when he or she is born into the world. Additionally, this life is evident in the child's potential for growth as he or she matures and develops over time.

A Prerequisite to Growth. Despite the fact that all living things by definition are alive, not all living things are growing or maturing. It indicates a problem when something living, such as a child or a plant, ceases to grow and develop. If children do not receive enough food (milk), they will not be able to grow big and strong, and if plants do not receive enough water and fertile soil, they will not be able to grow in a healthy manner. In this way, we are reminded that nutrients are essential for growth.

Eat and Grow. In our verse of the day, Peter uses the analogy of a newborn baby desiring their mother's milk to the believer desiring God's WORD. The Holy Bible (God's Word) provides nourishment to our Spirit in the same manner as milk provides nourishment to a baby. We can infer from Peter's statement that many Christians are stagnant in their Christian lives. This is not primarily because they are not attending church, praying, or taking part in Christian activities, but because they neglect reading God's Word primarily. Although prayer may provide guidance and Christian action may provide passion, God's Word is necessary for us to grow in faith and knowledge. Eat and grow.

-Your brother in Christ, WNL

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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

If you desire to grow in faith, desire God's WORD.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear God, thank you for your WORD which will help me grow in my knowledge of you and faith for you. Help me to desire this spiritual milk even more than a baby desires physical milk. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.



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