

# BE ENCOURAGED: A LETTER FROM PETER

## Sermon 6: Longing For God's Word

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TEXT: **1 Peter 2:1-3**

SUBJECT: **Spiritual Growth**

NOTES:

- What is **Different** about your life?
- Our **Desires** are also different in Christ.
- One such change for the child of God is a love for and delight in God's **Word**.
- In the passage before us, Peter called believers to "**Long**" for God's Word as newborn babies long for/crave milk.
- Note **3 Disciplines** in the child of God's life that foster spiritual growth:

### 1. **REMEMBER YOUR GREAT SALVATION—2:1a**

- Remember...
  - Man's **Problem**—"*All have sinned...*"
  - God's **Provision**—"*His only begotten Son*"
  - Our **Response**—"*Believe upon the Lord Jesus Christ*"
  - God's **Promise**—"*Whosoever*"
- Respond...
  - Hope**—v. 13
  - Holiness**—vv. 14=16
  - Honor**—v. 17
  - Harmony**—vv. 22-25

### 2. **REMOVE YOUR OLD GARMENTS—2:1b**

- Sins Must Be **Renounced**
  - Striving to eliminate sins is **Prerequisite** to sustaining the desire for God's Word.
  - Peter used an **Imperative** participle to command his readers to get rid of the sins in their lives.
  - The **Verb** rendered "*laying aside*" sometimes referred to stripping off soiled garments.
- A Sin List To **Review**
  - "*all malice*"—*kakia* = **General** wickedness
  - "*all deceit*"—*dolos* = **Deceit** and falsehood
  - "*hypocrisy*"—*hupokrisis* = spiritual **Insincerity** and pretense
  - "*envy*"—*phthonos* = **Attitude** of those who resent others' prosperity
  - "*all slander*"—*katalalias* = onomatopoeic word designed to **Sounds** like the whispers and tattles reported behind someone's back in gossip and backbiting;
  - Peter's list of specific sins is **Not** exhaustive
  - Taking off the sin garments **Clears** the way for an unhindered desire for the truth of God.

### 3. **RECEIVE GOD'S WORD—2:2-3**

- The **Desire**
  - Believers** need God's Word/Truth like a baby needs milk.
  - "*long for*"—*epipothesate* = **Imperative** verb
  - The desire is **for** "*Pure milk*"
- The **Growth**
- The **Blessing**