

Grow Up! Hebrews 5:11-14

1.) Be Honest About Your Lack of Spiritual Appetite!

Heb. 5:11 “Concerning him we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing.”

A. “**Dullness**” means there is something wrong with your HEART, not with your physical ears

Heb. 6:11-12 “And we desire that each one of you show the same DILIGENCE so as to realize the full assurance of hope until the end, 12 so that you will not be SLUGGISH, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.”

- “diligence” is the opposite of “dull” or “sluggish”
 - A DILIGENT HEART hears the promises of God and responds with faith and patience!
- Dullness** is a DISEASE OF THE HEART which receives God’s Word with no passion or enthusiasm

- It is an incredibly dangerous spiritual disease!

B. “**Hearing**” expresses a similar spiritual problem

Heb. 4:2 “For good news came to us just as to them, but the message they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united by faith with those who listened.”

- The opposite of “dullness of hearing” is hearing with FAITH which produces OBEDIENCE.

2.) Be Careful to Drink the Milk of the Word Properly!

Heb. 5:12b-14 “you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food. 13 For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is an infant. 14 But solid food is for the mature, who, because of practice, have their senses trained to discern good and evil.”

Big Question...

If it takes a MATURE PERSON to handle SOLID FOOD, how does a person BECOME MATURE?

Answer...

You become MATURE by **APPLYING** the MILK of the Word!

- **The Problem...** Spiritual babies AREN’T “**PRACTICING**” with the milk they have.
- **Vs. 14** – The milk of the Word produces a NEW MIND!
- A mind that can DISCERN between GOOD and EVIL

SOLID FOOD is for those who have allowed the milk of the Word to TRANSFORM their MINDS to the MIND of CHRIST!

Three steps to **PRACTICING** with the Milk of the Word...

a. **Drink** the milk

b. Savor, swallow, digest, and **be satisfied!**

- Let it SEEP down into your WOUNDS / the ARROWS of life!
- Let it WASH away your SINS!
- Let it REMIND you when you DISCOVERED FORGIVENESS! (First Love!)
- Let the MILK TRANSFORM your “SENSES”

c. Now, **DISCERN** good and evil!

3.) Find someone to TEACH!

Heb. 5:12a “For though by this time you ought to be teachers...”

- The author’s original STICKING POINT...you should be **teachers by now!**
- Being a teacher is a **powerful MOTIVATOR** to LEARN!

Who? Find someone who **KNOWS LESS THAN YOU!**

A. **UNSAVED** co-workers, friends, family members

- Teach them the Gospel, then **DISCIPLE** them faithfully
- **Obey 2 Timothy 2:2** “You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now, teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others.”

B. **PARENTS** – Reach your children with the Gospel and disciple them!

- YOU KNOW YOU KNOW MORE THAN THEY DO! (At least when they’re little!)

- **Dads...** why not be the one who leads your own children to **faith in Jesus Christ?** (Or Mom?)

Questions...

1.) What does **Hebrews 6:11-12** say about the OPPOSITE of one who is “dull of hearing”?

“And we desire that each one of you show the same DILIGENCE so as to realize the full assurance of hope until the end, 12 so that you will not be SLUGGISH, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.”

2.) Why is “dullness” such a dangerous spiritual disease?

3.) What point does **Hebrews 4:2** make about the issue of “hearing” and “faith”?

“For good news came to us just as to them, but the message they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united by faith with those who listened.”

4.) **Hebrews 5:12-14** doesn't describe or name a type of food between “milk” and “solid food”. Does the argument that the question really is, “what do you do with the milk you've already received” make sense to you?

5.) If it takes a MATURE PERSON to handle SOLID FOOD, how does a person BECOME MATURE?

6.) What is SOLID FOOD in the spiritual sense?

7.) Is **2 Timothy 2:2** a sound Biblical principle to build a church on?

“You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now, teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others.”