

Hebrews 5:13-14

¹³ For everyone who partakes *only* of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. ¹⁴ But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.

Many public schools have introduced, “Success for all students”; which has brought the learning level of the classroom, down to the student whose educational skills are at the bottom of the class. If feelings are the primary objective, then these school systems have succeeded in making many of our High School graduates feel good about the fact that they can’t even read their Diploma, which they received after thirteen years of public education. But is that all that has taken place? No, we have also dummed down the children who desire to learn, and have impeded their success. Many church leaders are guilty in many of the same ways, by practicing principles which are dangerously close! Instead of pastors teaching and training their congregations to mature in the things of God; we have become “milk factories”, and have discontinued solid food altogether. It isn’t very hard to find Christians who have attended church for five, ten, twenty, or even thirty years; who can’t recite the first five books of the Old Testament. They may be able to give you amazing statistics relating to their favorite sports team, or of their hobby, or even of their profession. Still, they have an elementary, if not pre-school understanding of the things of God. Would not most of us be shocked to find out just how many Christians, who have never read through the Bible during their entire life? We have no problem reading our favorite authors, whether secular or Christian. So why haven’t we ever read God’s Word through; and if we have, why don’t we read it through again, and again? In today’s techno world, it is not only easy, but quite affordable to purchase on cassette or CD, the Bible on audio. Truly if a generation was ever without excuse for not being in God’s Word, it is ours!

What about having a disciplined devotional everyday? How many Christians are faithful to spend time with our Lord on a daily basis? I’m not talking about legalism, I’m talking about self-discipline, and an exciting relationship with our Maker. Many Christians have never learned the principles which Jesus taught us while walking on this earth; because to be quite frank, they are contrary to our fleshly desires. If there is one thing that Jesus did, it was that He got away from His disciples, as well as everything else, to spend intimate time with His Father. Are we not to emulate those very disciplines into our lives? What about fasting? Have you ever fasted a day, or even a meal? Our Lord gave us not only the tools and weapons to succeed in this life, but the battle plan as well. So why aren’t more pastors teaching and exhorting their churches to mature in the things of God? Why aren’t we being exhorted to daily memorize God’s Word? Church, if you want to mature, then you must practice your faith, as this scripture exhorts. Do you really want to stand before the Living God one day, and tell Him that you never read His Holy Word through, because it wasn’t fun? Do you want to give an account for not going to church on a regular basis, because you had other things more important to do? Do you want to tell the Living God that you never fasted, because eating was more satisfying? Are you willing to continue not to tithe, and to one day give an account for robbing Him? We each, need to determine which account we want to give on that day; because that day, is certainly coming!!