

The need for commitment to the **Knowledge of God**
II Pet 1:5...add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge...

1. Why do people make serious mistakes?

- unbelief
- disobedience
- _____ Matthew 22:29 ...Ye do err, not _____ the _____, nor the power of God.
- attempting to run a spiritual vehicle on carnal food alone Matt 4:4

2. When should believers resemble infants? (an inspired comparison)

I Peter 2:1 Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, 2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

[Desire _____. Growth based on _____]

3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

The marks of spiritual immaturity:

I Corinthians 3:1 And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. 2 I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were **not able to bear it**, neither yet now are ye able. 3 For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?

- living like _____ "walk as men"
- envy, discord instead of unity, childishness
- inability to understand, apply, or live the truth
"ye were **not able to bear it**, neither yet now are ye able"

3. What are the biblical limitations on Knowledge?

I Corinthians 15: 33 Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners

I Corinthians 14:20 Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men.

"be naive in: _____" - badness, wickedness (*kakia*)

"be grown-up in: _____" - ability to perceive reality and respond to it righteously

What we input most—we output most ('garbage in- garbage out')

Luke 6:45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

Gal 6:7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. 8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

4. Changed from the inside out

Rom 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

changed in our thinking -- renewing of your mind,

God's Word: *The word 'knowledge' in this text means insight, understanding.*

Only God's word can give us the knowledge of truth

1 Discerning power

Heb.4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

2. Transforming power (broken, weak, confused, blind, demonized)

3. Creative power