

GROWING UP

1 Peter 2:1 (NIV) *Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind.*

1 Peter 2:2 (NIV) *Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, ³ now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.*

We need to be willing to do 2 things to grow:

1). Join God in His work.

1 Peter 2:4 (NIV) *As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—⁵ you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.*

Matthew 16:18 (ESV) *And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it*

⁹ *But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.*

2). Represent Jesus to others.

1 Peter 2:11 (NIV) *Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. ¹² Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.*

1 Peter 2:13 (NIV) *Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, ¹⁴ or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. ¹⁵ For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people.*

Act of Submission=is when you are forced to submit:

Spirit of Submission= when you are willing to submit.

1 Peter 2:16 (NIV) *Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves. ¹⁷ Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.*

1 Peter 2:21 (NIV) *To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.*

1 Peter 2:23 (NIV) *When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴ "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed." ²⁵ For "you were like sheep going astray," but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.*