

# 1 Peter 2:1-12

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## Why Don't You Just Grow Up?

**READ** 1 Peter 2:1-12 and **LISTEN** to Pastor Andrew Edmonds [Sermon](#).

As 'born again' believers we are called to Christlikeness (2 Corinthians 3:18) and daily need to pursue spiritual growth so that we mature in the faith. The Apostle Peter also shared this concern for the maturity of believers, and in his writings he exhorted them to "...grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18). Peter desired that the exiled and alienated recipients of his letters would be a holy and pure people in the face of adversity they were experiencing. This passage serves as an encouragement and challenge for us as believers, that likewise we would spiritually mature for our own good, the good of others and for the glory of God.

**Main lesson:** Every born-again believer can become spiritually mature by understanding *how* and *why* they should grow up for Jesus from 1 Peter 2:1-12.

### Questions:

1. As a believer describe some of your experiences where you tasted the loving kindness and goodness of the Lord (1 Peter 2:3)?
2. Why is purity so important in the life of a Christian (1 Peter 1:22-23)? What do the 'vices' in 1 Peter 2:1 do to hinder our purity? How far reaching is the impact of these sins when left unchecked?
3. If we grow up spiritually through the regular intake of God's Word (1 Peter 2:2) then what should we do if our appetite has diminished? What are the reasons 'why' someone doesn't crave the spiritual nourishment that God has provided?
4. Re-read 1 Peter 2:4-5. How does understanding who Christ is in these verses help us understand who we are as believers?

5. How does understanding our identity as 'living stones' help us in our spiritual maturity?
6. Peter describes Jesus as the 'Cornerstone' who we trust and believe in (1 Peter 2:6). What is the importance and meaning of this description? See Isaiah 28:16 and Psalm 118:22.
7. Why would Jews and non-believers reject and 'stumble' at the notion of Jesus being the 'cornerstone' or 'capstone' (1 Peter 2:7-8)? Why is it offensive to them?
8. Re-read 1 Peter 2:9-10. What names used by Peter to describe the people of God stand out to you, and why?
9. In light of the charge Peter gives the believers (1 Peter 2:11-12) what is the purpose of our identity in Christ? What reasons do you have to grow up in spiritual maturity?

### STOP AND PRAY:

**Praise:** *God who in Jesus gives us spiritual provision to grow in Him by the Word and know our true identity as the chosen people of God.*

**Confess:** *Repent of any sins that have distracted or taken your appetite away from craving the nourishment of the Word of God.*

**Pray:** *That as a people belonging to God we would spiritually mature for our own good, the good of others and for the glory of God.*