



**“YOU CAN MAKE IT”**  
MATURING SPIRITUALLY  
1 Peter 2:1-11

The believer’s life over time should display growth. Salvation is the starting point, not the finishing point. Once a person is saved, he or she should strive every day to grow. Everything in life grows, and we should too. Peter admonishes his audience to mature spiritually.

**LETTING GO TO MATURE v. 1**

Peter lists five sins of attitude and speech that we must **“lay aside”** ourselves of if spiritual growth is to proceed. “Lay aside” is a forceful phrase that calls us to “cast off or aside” certain practices that are deterrents to spiritual growth. What needs to be cast off “is not the grosser vices of paganism, but community destroying vices that are often common in the modern church. **1 Peter 2:1** gives specific application from **1 Peter 1:22**.

**THINGS TO LET GO**

- **All Malice**—An attitude similar to hatred, is the desire to inflict pain, harm, or injury on another person. It includes the holding of grudges and acting out of these grudges against others.
- **All Deceit**—Refers to deliberate dishonesty, to speaking or acting with ulterior motives. Anything less than speaking the full and honest truth from the heart is deceit. This vice is the selfish, two-faced attitude that deceives and hurts others for personal gain.
- **Hypocrisy**—Hypocrisy points to spiritual insincerity and pretense. The word lends to any behavior that is not genuine or consistent with what one really believes or says they believe. A person who is acting out a part and concealing his true motives.
- **Envy**—Envy begins with a desire to possess what belongs to someone else. But it is more than this. It is a resentful discontent. Envy is “the feeling of displeasure produced by witnessing or hearing of the advantage or prosperity of others”.
- **All Evil Speaking**—This points to gossip, backbiting, whispering behind a person’s back, and defaming a person’s character.

## **DESIRING THE WORD TO MATURE vv. 2-3**

### **WHAT THE WORD IS LIKE**

- **The Word Is Pure**
- **The Word Is Rational**
- **The Word Is Nourishing**

### **FOUR BENEFITS OF THE WORD OF GOD**

- It saves-Ephesians 1:13
- It produces faith-Romans 10:17
- It can help during the time of temptation-Matthew 4:1-11
- It aids in the believer's maturity-2 Timothy 3:16

### **FIVE MEANS OF BIBLICAL INTAKE**

- HEARING
  - READING
  - STUDYING
  - MEMORIZING
  - MEDITATING
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- **Meditation Begins with Bible Study**

**Observation:** Who? What? When? Where? Why? How?

#### **Interpretation:**

What is the context?

What is the full council of God?

What is the meaning of the passage?

**Application:** How then should I live?

- **Meditation Includes Bible Memory**

Aids in our fight against sin. Psalm 119:11-13

Aids in our witness toward others. 1 Peter 3:15

### **BIBLE INTAKE APPLICATION**

- Find a Bible translation that you can understand (NKJV, NASB, NIV, ESV).
- Ask God to help you prioritize engaging His Word daily.
- Spend at least fifteen minutes a day reading the Word.
- Find a Bible reading plan.