

**HOW ARE WE TO GROW OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST?  
PUTTING OFF SIN AND LONGING FOR HIS PURE WORD  
1Peter 2:1-3**

- I. **TO GROW IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST WE MUST HAVE PUT OFF ALL OF THOSE HORIZONTAL SINS before we can long for the Word (1)**
- A. “Therefore” in light of being born again unto a sincere love of the brethren by an imperishable seed, His living and remaining Word preached to us...we are to long for the pure milk of the Word (2:1a, 1:22-25)
- B. Having gotten rid of ALL those things from our old life that are contrary to a sincere love of the brethren... we are to long for the pure milk of the Word (1)
1. All malice
  2. All guile, hypocrisy (s) and envy (s)
  3. All slander (s)
- II. **TO GROW IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST WE MUST CONTINUALLY LONG FOR HIS PURE WORD so that we will grow (2)**
- A. We are commanded to continually long for, desire earnestly, His pure Word, like newborn babes long for milk to live (2a)
- B. The nature of His Word (1:22-25, 2:2)
1. It is the imperishable seed that caused our initial birth (salvation)
  2. It is alive and remains
  3. It is our spiritual food
  4. It is pure
- C. We are commanded to continually long for it so that we would grow in respect to salvation (2b)
- III. **TO GROW IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST WE MUST FIRST HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM: i.e. “If you have tasted the kindness of the Lord” (3)**