

How Bad Do You Want It? | Peter 2:1-3

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At the beginning of the year people tend to make resolutions; pledges or plans they would like to achieve. These are things they have been thinking about but have never been able to accomplish. People talk about quitting smoking, losing weight they gained during the holidays, eating healthier, taking on a new hobby, working on their relationship, going on vacation, etc. **How many of us would include in our list growing in in your relationship with Christ?**

Why is it that resolutions are so easy to make but so hard to keep? by the end of January some people already have thrown their resolutions out of the window?

Is it Lack of commitment or passion? Not enough motivation?

I think it's because they didn't want it that bad. **You have to want something as if your life depended on it.** People stayed in long lines on black Friday because they wanted to get the new Xbox, the 60 inch TV, latest smart phone. They sacrificed their bodies, time, they don't care how cold it may be. They stay in line because they truly want the deal so bad. This is how bad they truly want it.

As Christians, Why is it so hard for us to focus on the spiritual; to grow in our relationship with Christ? The simple answer to this question is that we simply don't care that much; we don't want it that bad, as if our lives depended on it. **Every relationship needs nurturing and doing nothing will not get you there.**

*When **Francis Chan** became a Christian, he remembered people told him at church that he needed to read the Bible if he truly wanted to grow in Christ. He said that he forced himself and disciplined himself to get up early and start reading it. This is how bad he wanted it.*

Michael Jordan was cut from the varsity team when he was a sophomore in high school. This motivated him to work hard on his game. He later on became the greatest basketball player on the NBA. This is how much he wanted it.

How bad will you work on your relationship with God? Your spiritual journey? You must want it really bad in order for you to succeed.

We have to crave his word, the same way a baby craves milk.

1 Pet.2:1-3

Chapter 2 is continuing what Peter talked about in chapter one. The word "therefore" is connecting what he said previously with what he will say next.

Therefore (because of, so, thus, then) (1 Pet.1:24-25....)

rid yourselves of all malice (meanness) and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy and slander of every kind. How about these for a new year resolution? Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk (of the word NASB), so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Like a newborn baby craves milk, we are to crave the spiritual milk of God's word so that by it, we may grow.

The Bible is to the Christian, what milk is to an infant. This is the food we must digest if we want to grow strong spiritually all the way to maturity.

A lot of Christians have lost the craving for the things of God, his Word. They are just content attending services, but don't experience growth. It's never too late to start craving God's word once again. You don't have to wait for things to change in your family, your home or church. You can do it anytime. No one else can do this for you; it's something you either choose to do or not. **How bad do you want to do this this year?** That decision is yours alone. **As babies crave milk, we are to crave the Bible.**

As Christians, we won't grow in our relationship if we don't crave his Word. The Psalm writer cried out, **as the deer pants for waters my soul pants for you of God. My soul thirsts for God.** This is how bad he wanted God. **Ps.42** Peter wrote to these Christians and he exhorted them to grow in grace and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ. **2 Pet.3:18**

For me to live is Christ and to die is gain. Phip. 1:21

Whatever plans or resolutions you may have this year, your success is going to depend on how bad you truly want it. If you succeed in all your resolutions but fail or neglect your spiritual walk; your relationship with God. Then you are failing God for not investing in what truly matters. **How bad do you truly want him?**