*Thursday, March 22, 2012*

**Slice of Life**

John 21:15-17 So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. (16) He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. (17) He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep. (KJV)

You know, our Lord thought it was important enough to remind Peter three times about feeding His flock, no matter where they were in their walk. It takes the right motives to hear the right response from our Lord so that someday when standing before Him we can hear well done good and faithful servant.

1 Peter 2:1-3 Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, (2) As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: (3) If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious. (KJV)

God’s desire for His people is that they grow and mature in the realm of the Spirit, growing from lambs into mature sheep. For those that are called of God to teach and preach, you need to be feeding them with something that they can ingest until they are weaned off the milk. Trying to feed an infant a steak can cause more harm than good because they haven’t developed teeth to chew the meat.

Hebrews 5:11-12 Of whom we have many things to say and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing. (12) For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. (KJV)

For those that haven’t gotten the memo from above on how to feed the flock of God, they need to go back to square one again with some sincerity this time and not for any self serving reasons, which is why they haven’t grown and matured.

Hebrews 5:13-14 For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. (14) But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. (KJV)

We have a lot of grownups who act like children because they haven’t exercised their Spiritual senses to know the difference between what is of God and what is of the flesh. That same Lord that spoke to you in the beginning of your walk is still knocking on the door of your heart so that He can show you how to grow and mature in His realm, as well as effectively teaching others.

2 Peter 3:18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him is glory both now and forever. Amen. (KJV)

The more you understand the love of God the more you will grow in grace, realizing that we are saved by His works and not our own.