

GROWING STRONG

SKIPPING PRACTICE?

Hebrews 5:11-14

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*For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food is for the mature, **who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.** Hebrews 5:13-14*

Q. What's the big deal about "practice" in the Christian life?

A. Practice is necessary in order to grow.

... we are to grow up in all aspects into Him, who is the head, even Christ. Ephesians 4:15

1. Lots of Christians are skipping practice.

A. They are inattentive hearers.

Concerning Him we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. Hebrews 5:11

B. They are growing older but not growing up.

For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food. Hebrews 5:12

C. They are inexperienced with the Word of God.

2. You will grow and become like Jesus if you will practice.

A. Practice involves spending time with God in His Word.

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, handling accurately the word of truth. 2 Timothy 2:15

1. You take the time to hear Him.

2. You take the risk to share with Him.

Trust in Him at all times, O people; Pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us. Selah. Psalm 62:8

3. You take the steps to obey Him.

But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. James 1:22

B. Practice enables discernment.

Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment. John 7:24

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. 1 John 4:1

C. Practice produces Christ-likeness.

Now as they observed the confidence of Peter and John, and understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were marveling, and began to recognize them as having been with Jesus. Acts 4:13

Will you commit to daily practice with the Master?