Spiritual Growth
1 Pet. 2:1-2

Introduction:
A. Peter, in both epistles, points to the need for Spiritual growth.
B. Three essentials one must have to grow is suggested by our text:
   1. One must be in a position to grow.
   2. One must have the means to grow
   3. One must have the desire to grow.

Discussion:
I. The Position to Grow.
   A. By becoming a “newborn babe”
      1. Having been born again (cf. Chapter 1:22-25; John 3:3-5).
      2. Having become a child of God (Gal. 3:26-27).
   B. By taking of the character of a “babe.”
      1. Without malice, guile, etc (v. 1).
      2. Totally dependent (Gal. 2:20).
      3. Constantly improving.

II. The Means to Grow.
   A. The Word.
      1. By which became newborn babes (1:23)
      2. Milk at first, then meat later (Heb. 5:12-14).
      3. Living, powerful, piercing and discerning (Heb. 4:12).
   B. The pure (sincere - unmixed) word.
      1. Unmixed with Jewish perversion (Gal. 2:5).
      2. Unmixed with human wisdom and philosophy (Col. 2:8).
      3. Unmixed with denominational doctrine.

III. The Desire to Grow.
   A. “Desire ... that you may grow” (v. 2).
      1. A baby has strong desire for milk.
      2. We must hunger and thirst for it (Matt. 5:6).
      3. Delight in it and long for it (Psa. 1:2; 119:174)
   B. The parable of the talents (Matt. 25:14-30).
   C. Too many like “Minnie Pearl’s” brother.
   D. People want to grow in every other endeavor important to them
   E. Every Christian should want grow.
      1. In things basic to being a Christian.
      2. In skills that make us more productive as Christians.
      3. In developing new talents and improving existing ones.

Conclusion:
A. In the Bible, we have the means of growth.
B. Are you in a position to grow?
C. Do you have the desire to grow?