

Gotta Have GOD'S WORD!

1 Peter 2:2-3

OBJECTIVE

By helping your children to understand the drive to eat that a young baby has, you will also help them to understand the kind of drive that God wants us to have to “feed” on his word. You will also pull your family closer together as you look at pictures from the past.

ACTIVITY

Bring out pictures of each of your children as small babies. It seems that kids never tire of seeing pictures of themselves and marveling that they were ever that small. Let them discuss the pictures. If any of your children are old enough to remember the birth of a brother or sister, let them share about what they remember.

Tell them how as babies they let you know when they were hungry. Imitate their loud insistent cry that would pierce the air (and your eardrums).

Ask them why that drive is so powerful. What would happen if the need for food was not met? Ask them if they have seen the sad pictures of starving children from Africa or other countries? Those pictures show what happens if a child does not have the food he needs.

APPLICATION

Read aloud the text for this devotional (1 Peter 2:2–3). Ask the children what this text means, what it is saying.

It drives home the point that we need to be eager or desperate for God’s word in our lives as a newborn baby is eager or desperate for milk (that is, we need to “crave pure spiritual milk”).

- How does that spiritual milk help us to “grow up in our salvation”?
- What does it mean that we as human beings need “spiritual food”?
- How do we get that spiritual food? What if we don’t get spiritual food? (Our growth is stunted, we don’t develop properly on the inside, in our heart where God wants to live.)
- What do you think happened to your cries for food when Mom started nursing you or gave you a bottle? (They were silent. From a mother’s perspective it is such a blessed quietness after the desperate screaming.)
- Why is a baby quiet when he is being fed? (His need is being met. He is content, satisfied, at peace.)
- If we “feed” on God’s word, how does it affect us in much the same way that you were affected as a baby when you got fed?
- Why do we sometimes not eat spiritual food (not spend time reading God’s word)?
- How can we encourage each other as a family to keep getting our spiritual food?

PLANS, COMMITMENTS OR FOLLOW-UP

Let each child choose one picture of him or her as a baby. Put the chosen pictures on the refrigerator or somewhere they will be seen during the coming week. Let them serve as a reminder to “crave pure spiritual milk,” to read God’s word during this week.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY OR ADDITIONAL STUDY

Psalm 119:103