

***Peace for the Journey ... May 13, 2010***

Scripture Reading: [Hebrews 5:7-14](#)

It seems like a large segment of society is looking for the fountain of youth, trying hard (and spending a lot of money) to avoid growing old(er) -- or at least trying to avoid *looking* like they are growing old(er). Youthfulness is a desirable quality, as long as it's limited to health and physical vitality, but when youthfulness is translated into immaturity then there's often a problem.

The Scriptures -- especially the New Testament -- balance the need for childlikeness with the need for maturity. Jesus says, "Whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." (Luke 18:17) But the writer of Hebrews says, "Everyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is unskilled in the word of righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, for those whose faculties have been trained by practice to distinguish good from evil." (Hebrews 5:13-14) This is both-and, not either-or: followers of Jesus are childlike and utterly dependent on God; while at the same time, they are maturing in discipleship through practice and training.

It is an amazing gift, to be like a child, wrapped up in the arms of God's love, while at the same time learning and growing through prayer, worship, Bible reading, and Christian service.

Soak in the grace and love of God today and enjoy the opportunity to grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ.