

A Self-Feeding Disciple

2 Peter 3:18 – But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. (CSB)

Colossians 2:6-7 – ⁶So then, just as you have received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, ⁷being rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, and overflowing with gratitude. (CSB)

I. A self-feeding disciple must first have **equipping leaders**.

Ephesians 4:11-12 – ¹¹Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. ¹²Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. (CSB)

1 Timothy 1:18-19 – ¹⁸Timothy, my son, I am giving you this instruction in keeping with the prophecies previously made about you, so that by recalling them you may fight the good fight, ¹⁹having faith and a good conscience. Some have rejected these and have shipwrecked their faith. (CSB)

II. A self-feeding disciple takes responsibility for their own **spiritual growth**.

Matthew 4:4 – He answered, “It is written: Man must not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.” (CSB)

Job 23:12 – I have not departed from the commands from his lips; I have treasured the words from his mouth more than my daily food. (CSB)

Psalm 1:1-2 – ¹How happy is the one who does not walk in the advice of the wicked or stand in the pathway with sinners or sit in the company of mockers! ²Instead, his delight is in the Lord’s instruction, and he meditates on it day and night. (CSB)

III. A self-feeding disciple becomes a **healthy and mature** follower of Christ.

Psalm 1:3 – He is like a tree planted beside flowing streams that bears its fruit in its season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers. (CSB)

IV. A self-feeding disciple is fed singly by **Jesus Himself**.

John 6:51-57 – ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread he will live forever. The bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.” ⁵²At that, the Jews argued among themselves, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” ⁵³So Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life in yourselves. ⁵⁴The one who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day, ⁵⁵because my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶The one who eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so **the one who feeds on me** will live because of me.
(CSB)

Thought For The Week:

The Lord watches over the way of the **righteous**,
but the way of the wicked leads to **ruin**. –Psalm 1:6

Todd Hitchcock - Bethel Baptist Church August 26, 2018 Message Notes
