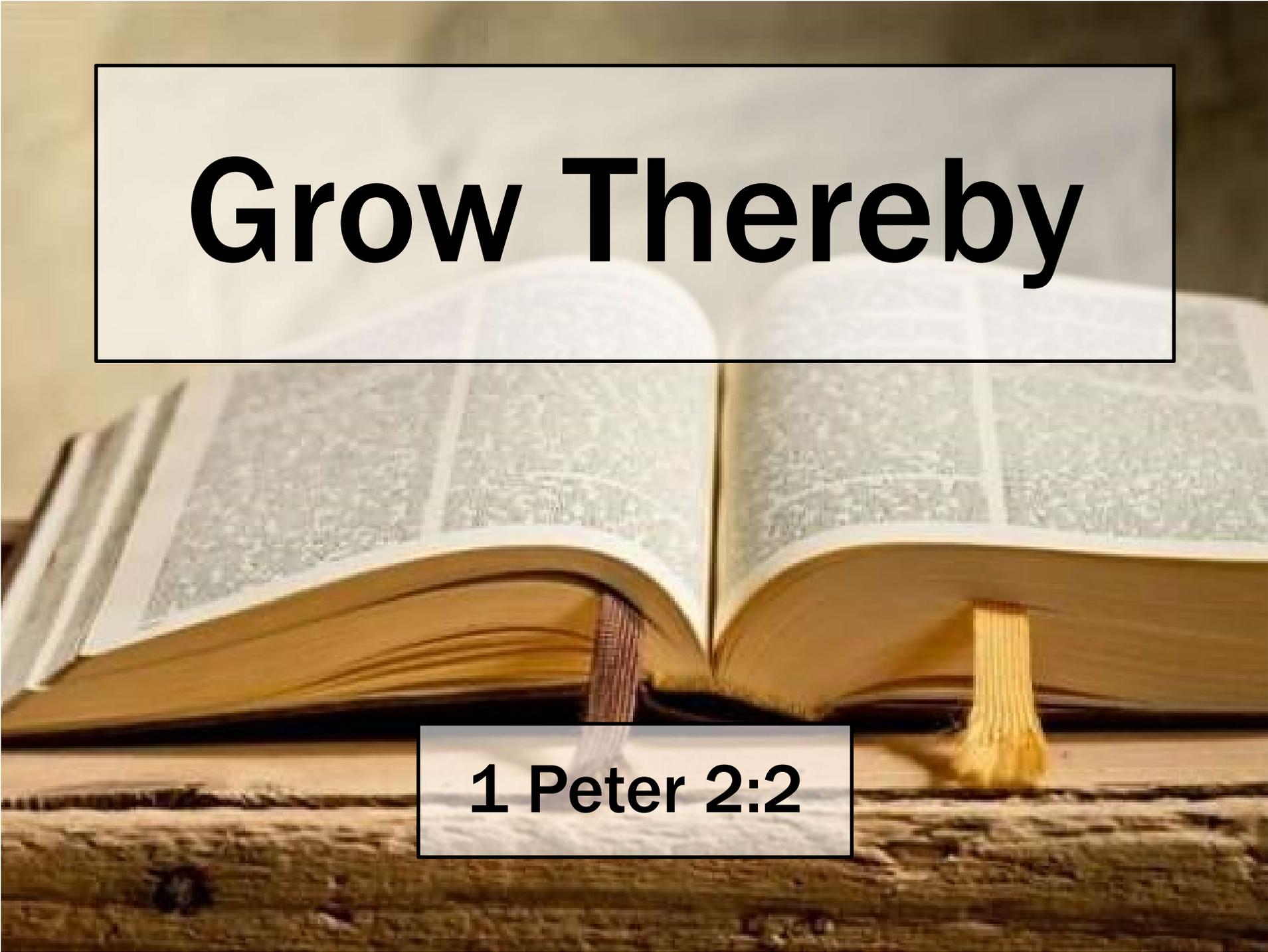


# Grow Thereby

An open book with two wooden sticks used as page holders, resting on a textured surface. The book is open to two pages of text, and the sticks are placed under the pages to keep them from closing. The background is a warm, golden-brown color.

**1 Peter 2:2**

# Grow Thereby

<sup>22</sup> Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, <sup>23</sup> having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, <sup>24</sup> because “All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away, <sup>25</sup> But the word of the LORD endures forever.” Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.

1 Peter 1:22-25

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# Why We Grow

- Recognize what was done for us
  - 1 Peter 2:3 – The Lord is gracious
    - Matthew 27:11-50 – Death on the cross
    - Romans 5:6-11 – Through this death we have the opportunity to be reconciled to God
  - 1 Peter 2:10 – We had not obtained mercy but have now

# Why We Grow

- **Recognize who we belong to**
  - **1 Peter 2:9-10** – We are now His, a people of God
  - **1 Corinthians 6:19-20** – I am not my own, I was bought at a price, I am now living for God
  - **Galatians 2:20** – Christ lives in me

# Why We Grow

- **Recognize our faith will be tested**
  - **1 Peter 5:8-9** – Satan is seeking those he can devour
  - **1 Peter 1:6-7** – We prove our faith genuine by going through these trials
  - **1 Corinthians 3:1-3** – Those in Corinth should have grown but had not

# How We Grow

- **We must lay aside distractions**
  - **1 Peter 2:1** – Lay aside that which we used to do
    - **Hebrews 12:1** – Lay aside every weight, so we can run the race
  - **1 Peter 2:11** – Abstain from fleshly lust, that war against the soul
  - **Romans 13:14** – Make no provision for the flesh to fulfill its lusts

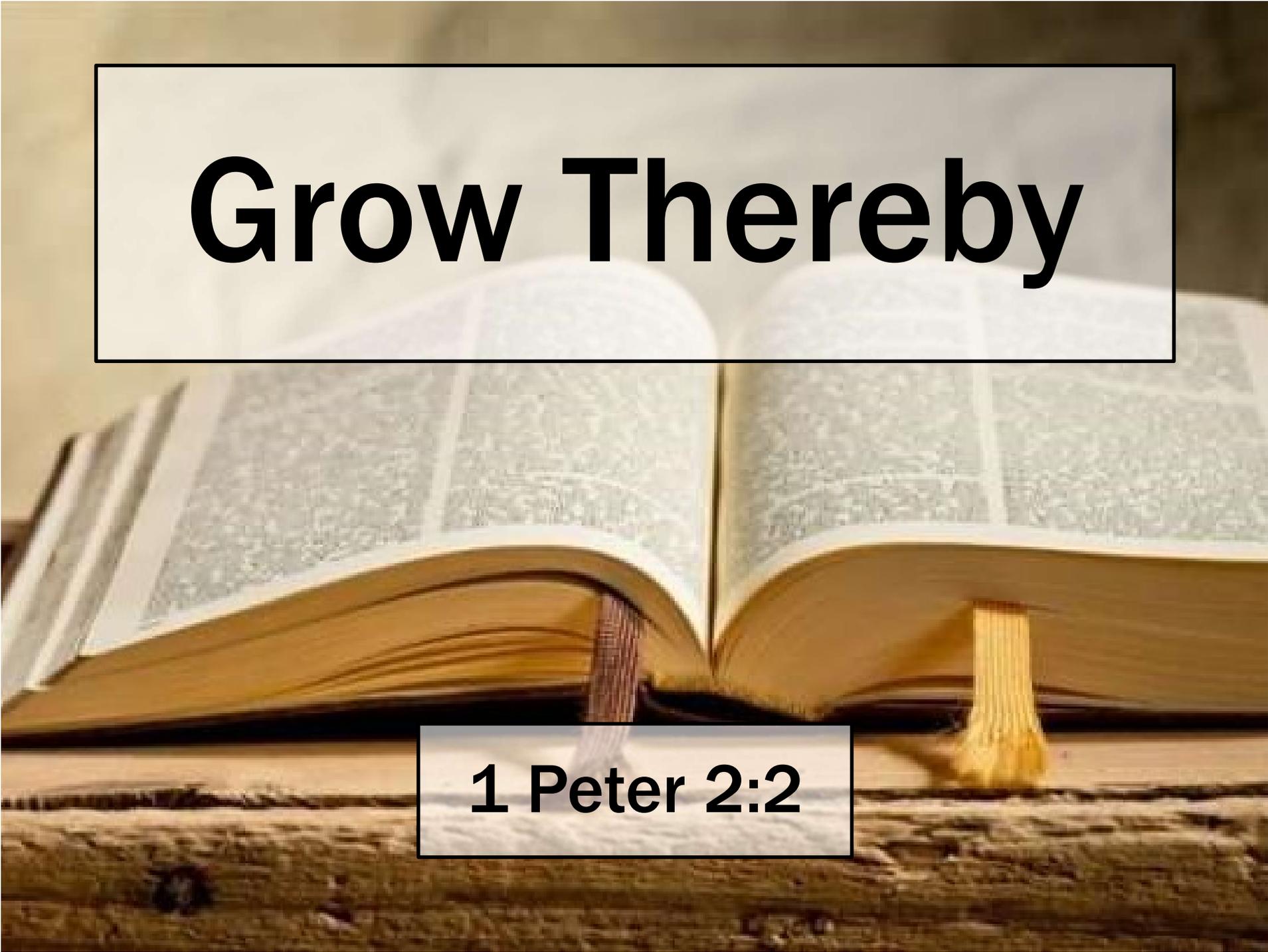
# How We Grow

- **Grow by the word of God**
  - **1 Peter 2:2** – Desire the word and grow thereby
  - **Romans 10:17** – Faith comes from hearing the word of God
  - **1 Timothy 4:13-16** – Give attention to God's word

# What does this mean?

- **Lay Aside...**
  - Immoral things
  - Temporal things
  - Things that hinder
- **Grow by...**
  - Having a desire for God's word
    - Preaching, bible classes and in-home bible studies
    - During free time
    - In our conversations

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