

# As a born again Christian have I been weaned yet from the milk of God's word? Or am I still a carnal, worldly Christian?

**Webster's:** Weaned means to get used to receiving food other than by being nursed.

Naturally weaned – is a big deal: Gen 21:8 **Isaac grew and was weaned. And Abraham made a great feast on the same day that Isaac was weaned.**

1 Sam 1:22 **Hannah...said "Not until Samuel is weaned; then I will take him, so that he may appear before the LORD and remain there forever."**

Spiritually weaned – is an even bigger deal with God – yet very few Christians are weaned

Isa 28:9-10 **Who is it He is trying to teach? To whom is He explaining His message? To children weaned from their milk, to those just taken from the breast?**

1 Cor 3:1-2 (To Christians) **I could not speak to you as to spiritual people (filled with the Spirit TLB) but as to Carnal (who still belong to the world TEV), as to babies in the Christian faith. I fed you with milk and not with solid food...**

3 **For you are still only baby Christians, controlled by your own desires, not God's. When you are jealous of one another and divide up into quarreling groups, doesn't that prove you are still babies, wanting your own way? In fact, you are acting like people who don't belong to the Lord at all. TLB**

## Subject

## Christians not yet weaned

## Christians Weaned

### Spiritual Food

The Milk of God's word

The solid food of God's word

Heb 5:13-14 **Everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since they are babies. But solid food is for the spiritually mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.** ESV

### How fed

By others only, Heb 5:12

Can feed oneself and others Jo 21:15

### Type of Christian

Carnal/natural ruled by human nature, by their brain, senses, and emotions, Eph 4:17

Spiritual, ruled by God's Spirit in a reborn human spirit Rom. 8:14-16

### Baptized with The Holy Spirit

No, God's word head memorized Not in God's will, Rom 8:7

Yes, Spirit to spirit led, fed by God's living words Ro 12:1 & 2, Jer 15:16

### Lifestyle

Like the unsaved, 1 Cor. 3:3

God's sons and daughters Ro 8:14

### Characteristics

Envy, strife & divisions 1 Co 3:3  
Difficulty understanding spiritual things – or heart hearing God's voice 1 Cor. 2:14, Heb. 5:11

Are of one spiritual mind – Phil 2:2  
Hear God's voice, receive revelation and grow in the knowledge of God Jo 10:27, 1 Co 2:9-10. Col 1:9

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<u>Characteristics</u>	Changeable human love, Luke 6:33 Easily offended and unforgiving Mat.6:15, Mat. 18:33 Proud, self-willed Hab 2:4 NLT Jer 17:5, 1 Pe 4:2, Jam 4:6	God's unchangeable love 1 Jo 4:7-8 In and by Christ always forgiving others, Mat. 5:7, Eph 4:32 KJV The humility of Christ, God-willed Mat. 11:29, Mat 18:2-3, Mat 7:21
	<b>Ps 131:1-2 Lord, my heart is not haughty, nor my eyes lofty: nor do I concern myself in matters too great for me, or in things too high for me. Surely I have behaved and quieted myself, as a child that is weaned from their mother: my soul is even as a weaned child. KJV</b>	
	Unbelieving. Jo 5:44, 2 Tim. 3:7-8 Comparing self to others, 2 Co 10:12	Growing in God's faith, Ro 10:17 Christ is the standard, Heb. 3:14
<u>Knowledge of (knowing) God</u>	Not growing, if they were they would be weaned, 1 Pe 2:2, 1 Cor. 15:34	Active growing relationship with God. Isa. 28:9, 2 Pet. 1:3-4
<u>Battle with sin, with self-will</u>	Losing, so dying to God, Rom. 6:16 Throwing off self-restraint Prov. 29:18	Winning, in & by Christ Rom 6:14 and constrained by God's love Psa. 119:11, 2 Cor. 5:14
<u>Interest in soul winning</u>	Negligible, Luke 8:14	Increasing in God's compassion, Jo 15:2-8, Prov. 11:30
<u>Being disciplined and discipling</u>	Neither, Eph.4:14-15, Heb. 5:12	Both, eating and teaching God's word, Isa. 55:10-11, 2 Cor. 9:10
<u>Where Christ is</u>	Somewhere up above, 2 Cor. 5:16	Within us - Luke 17:21, Col. 1:27
<u>The Bible seen primarily as:</u>	Law, as a rule-book, Rom. 2:20, Heb. 7:18 -19, Gal 2:21, Gal 5:4	Revealed as grace, living words, as Christ, Acts 20:32, 2 Cor. 3:6,
<u>Easily deceived by evil spirits</u>	Yes, having so little light, especially about God, Eph 4:14, Eph 5:6	No, by the light of God's words & Spirit, Ps 119:130, 1 Jo 2:27
<u>Ready to go at Christ's return</u>	Not ready, still disobedient, names not in book of life Lu 1:17, Rev 3:5	Ready, in Him, making others ready: 1 Jo 2:28, 1 Thess 2:19

**Col 1:28 Christ we preach, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, that we may present everyone perfect in Christ Jesus.**

**Heb 5:12-13 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the utterances of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for they are babies.**

## For me to be moved from being a Carnal Christian to being a Spiritual Christian

Carnal	—————→	Spiritual (in God's Kingdom Rom 14:17)
My will ruled by my flesh	————→	My will ruled by God's Spirit in my spirit
Un-weaned	—————→	Weaned (no longer fed milk by others)
Self-life	—————→	Christ-life (no longer I but Christ in me)

- I will likely need God's forgiveness again, but first I must grant genuine heart forgiveness to others, based solely on the truth that Jesus Christ bore their sins at Calvary – we do it by faith. God says we can do it – we just do it. Mat. 6:12 & 14.
- We begin to hate our life as it is, with me in control, which God calls sin. John 12:25  
John 12:25 (Jesus) **Those who love their life will lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.**
- We are really willing and wanting to let God take full control of our life: Mat. 11:29  
Matt 11:29 (Jesus) **Take My yoke (My Spirit) upon you and learn of Me (receive my nature) for I am meek and humble in heart, and you will find rest (salvation) for your souls (for your will, from the rule of self to the control of a loving God).**

Receiving the Holy Spirit: Our desire is to be filled with and led by the Holy Spirit in all our choices and decisions. We ask the Father for His Spirit in accordance with His promise in Luke 11:13. We believe that we receive the Holy Spirit just as described in Mark 11:24.

Luke 11:13 (Jesus) **...How much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"**

Mark 11:24 (Jesus) **...Whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.**

We now expect to be led by God's Spirit in every area of our lives. We understand that primarily it will be by the inward witness of God's Spirit communicating with our own spirit.

Rom 8:16 **For His Holy Spirit speaks to us deep in our hearts (that is, in our spirits) and tells us that we are God's children (and what His will for us is).** NLT

Dying to self: We now discover the mystery of God our Father revealing Himself to our hearts, through His Son and Word by His gentle Spirit: Jer. 29:13, Mark 4:11, Col. 2:2. As God speaks to me each day by His Spirit through His word and I receive His words into my heart I find He is changing my nature, old habits drop away, the power of my flesh diminishes and my interest in the spiritual well being of others increases, 2 cor. 3:18, John 8:32, Romans 8:29. Soon the Holy Spirit leads me to scriptures that say in addition to dying for my sins, Christ also died to the power of my sinful human nature. As I believe His death to now be mine I'm made free from the power of sin: Rom 6:11, 1 Jo 3:5-6.

Gal 2:20 **I am crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loves me and gave Himself for me.**