

GROWING UP

SCRIPTURE:

Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment. And this we will do, if God permits (Read Hebrews 5: 12 - 6: 3).

MATERIALS LIST:

(1) Break Fluid or Break Pads

SONG: "I Want To Be A Worker"

LESSON:

Learning to ride a bike is a challenging and rewarding experience and something we will never forget. The next step up in our mobility comes many years later in the form of a car. Perhaps not as challenging as learning to ride a bike, it is, nonetheless, rewarding to finally get that first set of wheels.

I learned to drive a standard transmission truck with no power steering and a loose gear box, which added a level of guess work to shifting up. One of the most difficult things about a standard is there is an extra peddle in the floor board. The gas and break peddles are easy compared to the clutch peddle. Not only do you have to keep that peddle pressed in with your left foot while your right hand shifts from 1st to 2nd gear, your right foot has to slightly press the gas peddle while your right foot eases off the clutch. All of this is going on while your left hand and eyes are doing their best to keep the truck from crossing the median or running into the ditch.

This all may sound terrifying and difficult, but think back to learning to ride a bike and how difficult it was to remember to keep your hands steady, peddle, break when needed, all while trying not to tip over. Also think of how rewarding it was to finally be able to ride your bike where ever you wanted. After mastering a standard transmission you are now capable of driving any vehicle on the road...that is, any vehicle you are licensed to drive.

Like learning to walk, riding a bike, and driving a car for the first time, there are things one must learn and master before feeling comfortable setting out on your own. The Christian walk is no different. At first, it may seem overwhelming the amount of knowledge found in the Bible. However, after careful study, we begin to see the pattern of life expected of a Christian. It becomes easier to learn and understand the instruction of God. The audience of the Hebrew writer had once learned to master the basics of Christianity, but instead of shifting up to a higher gear and teaching others they downshifted and had to put back on the training wheels. As Christians, we need to always be moving forward and never backwards.

PRAYER: That we always shift our gears forward instead of failing to grow in Your Word.

MAIN MESSAGE:

Just as we must learn to shift from 1st gear to 5th gear, if we want to do any real traveling, Christians must move on from the milk of the Word to the meat. Once we master the basics, we need to branch out and help spread the Gospel message.