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# Foreword

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## **Unit 1: The Inspiration of Scriptures**

Without the Bible, we would be in the dark, without hope of knowing God and His plan of redemption. God's Word provides us with the foundation for our faith and source of spiritual revelation- the Bible!

### **1 Corinthians 3:11-12**

**For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.**

- The Bible is our final authority for all matters that pertain to life and conduct.
- We must learn to put God's Word first place in our lives and put it into practice.
- To establish the understanding that our attitude, reverence, respect and humility is essential.

The Bible has been given to mankind by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. The words in the Bible are accurate and a complete revelation of God to us.

### **2 Timothy 3:16-17**

**All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.**

## **Unit 2: The Power of God's Word**

God's power is resident within His Word, the Bible. As we purpose to speak God's Word in our lives, and over the world around us, things change!

- The Grace of God is the power of God, and this power is found in God's Word.
- To see that the Word of God is a person, Jesus Christ!
- Just as natural food is to our body, so the Word of God is to our spirit- nourishment.

### **Hebrews 4:12**

**For the word of God is living and active . Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.**

## **Unit 3: The Word of Light and Revelation**

The Bible is God speaking to us, so it is the source of revelation knowledge; the unveiling of truth from God that sets us free. The light of God's Word reveals the reality of life in the natural and spiritual realms.

- God's Word contains God's plan of redemption and our glorious inheritance.
- The Bible reveals spiritual truths for us to embrace, and so transforms our lives.
- Since God's Word is God's will, we can pray effectively and live according to His will.

### **Psalms 119:130 NKJV**

**The entrance of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple.**

# I. The Inspiration of Scriptures



*And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe.  
1 Thessalonians 2:13*

God's Word is our final authority for all matters that pertain to life and conduct. The Bible is our source for all direct revelation from God concerning Himself, mankind, redemption and a glimpse into the endless ages of eternity.

In this day when it seems the whole world doubts that there is an absolute truth, this topic is more appropriate than ever. The basic question is this: Can we trust the Scriptures? To what extent is it trustworthy? Is it authoritative only in matters of faith, or are its historical and scientific declarations also to be trusted? Is the Bible just the human testimony of divine revelation, and therefore subject to error? Is the Bible really the Word of God, or is it just the method that God uses to deal with us through His Spirit? The answers to these questions depend on the definition of inspiration.

**Definition**      The supernatural action of the Holy Spirit on the mind of the sacred writers whereby  
**Inspiration**      the Scriptures were not merely their own, but the Word of God. Scripture not merely contains but is the Word of God.

## A. Facts About the Bible

### 1. No Contradiction

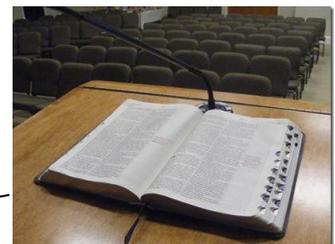
Circumstances that surround the writings of the Bible prove that it is inspired by God himself.

#### **2 Peter 1:20-21**

**Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.**

The Bible was written by 40 different men over a 1,500 year period, in different parts of the world, time, environment, personalities and culture. Yet they were consistent in what they wrote and did not contradict one another. The only solution is a divine author spoke through them. The Bible is the Word of God, preserved by God, and inspired by God.

*God's Word Is  
Final Authority For  
All Matters That  
Pertain To Life  
And Conduct!*



The Bible is not a mythological book of old wives tales and fables that man made up! Most of the authors were eyewitnesses of the things they wrote about and simply bore witness to what they saw and heard.

### **2 Peter.1:16**

**We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.**

### **Galatians 1:11-12**

**I want you to know, brothers, that the gospel I preached is not something that man made up. I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ.**

### **Luke 1:1-4**

**Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. Therefore, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, it seems good also to me to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.**

### **The Inerrancy of the Scriptures**

Means that in its original autographs, the Bible contains no mistakes. In the original languages in which it was written, it is absolutely infallible- without error whatever. This has been the position of all the confessions of the great evangelical churches down through the years. In contrast to this, atheists, agnostics and liberal theologians have declared the Bible to be full of errors and contradictions. However, God has hidden the truth of His Word from such as these, so it is no small wonder that they say such things.

### **1 Corinthians 2:14-15**

**The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.**

The doctrine of inerrancy comes from the Scriptures themselves. It claims to be inspired by God as stated in 1 Timothy 3:16 and 2 Peter 1:21. The writers of the Old Testament are most explicit in claiming they were speaking the Word of God. They claimed 3,808 times to be transmitting the very words of God. The New Testament writers also bear witness to the fact that the Old Testament was God speaking. Jesus Christ Himself bore witness to the Scripture. Christ specifically confirmed the whole of the Old Testament. He did not find one error or inconsistency with it.

### **The Infallibility of the Scriptures**

This doctrine states that the Bible is infallible, which is to say, without error in the original manuscripts. In other words, if we had access to all the facts concerning a Biblical manuscript, we would be able to demonstrate that in the original (when correctly interpreted) what the Bible says is entirely true and never false in all that it affirms whether it be doctrine, ethics, history or science.

\* Infallibility applies to all parts of the Scripture.

\* Infallibility is related to the correct interpretation of the Bible.

\* Infallibility of the Bible is not limited to doctrinal issues. Everything that the Bible affirms concerning faith and ethics is based on God's action in history. One cannot separate the theological from the scientific and historic portions of Scripture.

## 2. Fulfillment of Prophecy

The fulfillment of thousands of prophecies that were recorded in the Bible proves that it is inspired by God himself.

### **Matthew 5:17-18**

**“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.”**

About 3,300 verses of prophecy have been fulfilled, predictions made hundreds and even thousands of years before fulfillment. Not one detail has failed. Already, most of them have been fulfilled and are being fulfilled today. The Bible is not a man originated book, but God's blueprint for the redemption of mankind, outlining His strategies and recording His victories. It is plain to see that by the prophetic nature of the Scriptures that it is a book inspired by God.

*Heaven And  
Earth Will Pass  
Away, But God's  
Words Will Never  
Pass Away!*



Man's kingdoms and philosophies come and go like the wind, but God's words are eternal. They never grow old or become outdated or old fashioned. They are just as real and pertinent to today's issues and concerns as they were thousands of years ago. The Bible provides reflections on past happenings, answers for today's problems, and vision for tomorrow's uncertainties.

### **Psalm 119:89, 96**

**Your word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. To perfection I see a limit; but your words are exceedingly broad and extends without limits into eternity.**

### **119:152, 160, 144**

**Long ago I learned from your statutes that you established them to last forever. All your words are true; all your righteous laws are eternal. Your statutes are forever right.**

### **Proverbs 30:5-6**

**Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him. Do not add to his words, or he will rebuke you and prove you a liar.**

### **Isaiah 40:6-8**

**All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field. The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the Lord blows on them. Surely the people are grass. The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever.**

**God's Word The Foundation of Our Faith - 6 -**

### 3. God's Creation

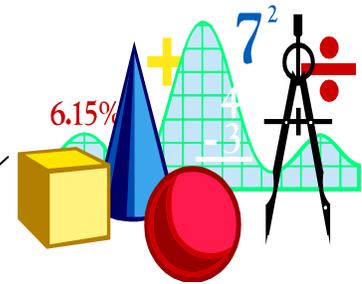
Since God's creation is accurately recorded in the Scriptures, it proves that the Bible is inspired by God himself.

#### **Romans 1:18-20**

**The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities- his eternal power and divine nature- have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.**

The Bible is scientifically and historically correct. No one man has ever found the Bible at fault in any of its hundreds of statements on history, astronomy, botany, geology, or any other branch of learning. When science sets out to disprove the Bible, it only confirms it as our final authority for all matters of human existence.

*"The Fool Says  
In His Heart,  
"There Is No  
God."*



We read in 1Corinthians 14:33 that God is a God of order, which is demonstrated by the universe that He has so wonderfully created. It's no wonder that His written Word is fashioned in the same manner. The Word of God not only unlocks secrets to God's spiritual kingdom but also the natural world we live in.

Scientists have discovered that when an object travels at the speed of light, time slows down dramatically. In 1John 1:5 we see that, *"God is light; in him is no darkness at all."* To God our time on earth is but a drop in the ocean compared to the eternal realm that He lives in.

#### **2 Peter 3:8**

**But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.**

We see that the Bible is an accurate source for historical occurrences.

#### **Luke 2:1-3**

**In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to his own town to register.**

#### 4. Inspired by the Holy Spirit

We know simply by the very content of God's Word that it is inspired of God himself.

##### 2Timothy 3:16-17

**ALL SCRIPTURE IS GOD-BREATHED and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.**

The Bible is the inspired, God-breathed Word of God. The Bible is an inherent, infallible book. It contains words, phrases, and sentences as it was originally written. The Word of God contains no errors. Doctrinally there is no error. The essence of the Word is still intact even when it is translated into other languages. God is more than able to preserve the integrity of His Word and to protect His eternal truths for all generations.

*For Men Spoke  
From God As  
They Were Carried  
Along By The  
Holy Spirit.*



**Verbal Plenary Inspirational View-** For you Bible scholars, we believe that every word in the Bible is the Word of God. All Scriptures are God breathed and inspired by the Holy Spirit.

**The Inspiration Of God-** The special Divine influence and power of the Holy Spirit upon the spirits, minds, and lives of holy men of old enabled them to make an infallible record of divine truth concerning the will of God to man. However, inspiration is not dictation where God sat them down like a secretary to write a letter. The Spirit used their personalities, background, and culture to breathe through them divine revelation. Inspiration is the process through which God, by means of the Holy Spirit, assured the existence of an exact and true record of the redeeming work of Christ, and the corresponding interpretation of the redemption story, produced in written form by holy men of God.

##### Ephesians 3:1-5

**For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles- Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, that is, the mystery (of the gospel) made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to men in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets.**

There are places in the Bible where both evil men and the devil have spoken, they are not inspired sayings. What is said gives insight into the character, activities, and motives of the devil and men. Therefore, what they said is inspired by God but **only** in the sense that what they said was **accurately recorded** as reliable information for our benefit.

### **1Corinthians 10:6,11**

**Now these things occurred as examples, to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come.**

There is much history and many personal observations recorded in the Scriptures. What we are assured of is that the record is true. The Holy Spirit directed and influenced the writers so that, by inspiration, they were kept from every error of fact and doctrine. The Bible records the words and acts of God, men and the devil. It is very important to take careful note of who is speaking when reading the Bible. Since we follow the biblical pattern, *“Every matter must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses”* 2 Corinthians 13:1. we can confidently say that the Bible is inspired by God.

There is much history and many personal observations recorded there. What we are assured of is that the record is true. The Holy Spirit directed and influenced the writers so that, by inspiration, they were kept from every error of fact and doctrine. The Bible records the words and acts of God, men and the Devil. It is very important to take careful note of who is speaking when reading the Bible.

#### **WM, Evans has expressed it well:**

Though all Scripture is inspired, it does not stamp with divine authority every sentence which it reports as uttered by the men of who it speaks, nor does it mark with divine approval every action which it relates as performed by those with whose biographies it deals. In the book of Job, for example, Inspiration gives with equal accuracy the language of Jehovah, the words of Satan, and the speeches of Job and his three friends; but it does not therefore place them all on the same level of authority. Each speaker is responsible for his own utterances. Neither Satan, Job nor his three friends spoke by inspiration of God. They gave utterances to their own opinions; and all that Inspiration vouches for is that no one of them was misrepresented, but that each one spoke the sentiments that are attributed to him in Scripture.

## **The Bible Is God Speaking To Me!**

If we get anything from this lesson, we must understand that the Bible is God speaking to me. It is not a magazine or textbook that man has made. The Bible has divine authority and places a divine prerogative and obligation upon us to obey it. We must approach God’s Word with reverence and awe, trusting the Holy Spirit to unlock its eternal truths to us and bring us into life and blessing.

### **1Thessalonians 1:13**

**And we also thank God continually because, when you received the Word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the Word of God, which is at work in you who believe.**

The Bible is our final authority for all matters that pertain to life and conduct. It is our standard by which we frame our lives in harmony with God’s will. It is the plum line by which we discern truth from error, right from wrong.

### **Acts 17:11**

**Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.**

In Psalms 138:2 it says, “*You have exalted your Word above all your Name!*” God has set the precedence for our posture towards God’s Word. It is our solid foundation, and rock on which we can build our lives and entrust our eternal security.

### **Matthew 7:24-25**

**“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the ROCK. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the ROCK.”**

### **Having Ears that Hear**

Jesus made the following statement a number of times, “*He who has ears to hear, let him hear.*” Indicating the attitude of the heart and mind to be open to embrace revelation truth. The Scriptures encourage us to be hungry and thirsty for righteousness (Matthew 5:6), and to eagerly examine the Scriptures and incorporate them into our very lives- Acts 17:11.

The measure of attention that is given to what we hear is the measure of what we will get out of what we hear. There can be two people in the same service and one individual’s life is completely changed and transformed and the other one just sitting there bored. The difference is in how one hears; how we esteem what we hear, the value we place on the Word of God. Spiritual things never grow old, so if it’s old to us, it was never real to us.

### **Mark 4:24-25 AMP**

**“Consider carefully what you hear,” he continued. “With the measure [attentiveness to the Word] you use, it will be measured to you — and even more. Whoever has [ears to hear] will be given more; whoever does not have[ears to hear], even what he has [knowledge of God’s Word] will be taken from him [will forget it].”**

### **Luke 8:18**

**“Therefore consider carefully how you listen. Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has will be taken from him.”**

We must receive the Word like a child, in humility, and a teachable spirit (James 1:21; Luke 10:21). If we do this, then the Spirit of truth will pour in so much wisdom, and revelation knowledge into our spirit- like a great flood of light.

Second of all, in verse 24, Jesus warns us, “*Be careful of what you are hearing.*” Unless you want your heart full of weeds that will choke out the Word. **The law of cause and effect** is in operation here. The measure or proportion you give to hearing & studying the Word, will result in the measure, and proportion of understanding, and revelation knowledge you will receive.

### **2 Timothy 4:3-4**

**For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.**

However, there is a great danger for us to be just selective hearers only. Hearing only that which fits our own personal beliefs or bias. However, we may even have accurately embraced the truth on a few Biblical subjects, but are closed to other essential truths taught in Scripture. The bottom line is we need to accept the full message of this new life in Jesus Christ; Acts 5:20, “*Go, stand in the temple courts,*’ he said, *and tell the people the full message of this new life.*”

## 5. Must Put it into Practice

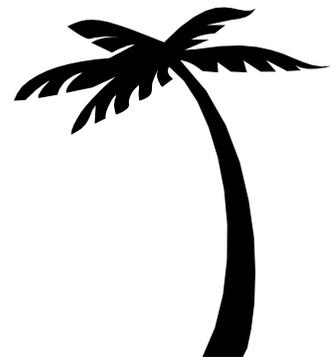
The Word of God will only benefit us when we actually put it into practice consistently in our lives as a lifestyle of faith and obedience. Otherwise, we are simply deceiving ourselves; living unchanged lives.

### James 2:14-18

**What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, “Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. But someone will say, “You have faith; I have deeds.” Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do.”**

The Bible was not meant to be read like a magazine or newspaper. Just pick it up at our leisure and flip through the pages and read the articles we only like and say, “Oh that’s nice, hey John come look at the pretty pictures in the back of my Bible,” and then the next minute forget what we just read (like the Sunday morning message we heard last week). At least that is better than what happens to some Bibles, they become beautiful ornaments on the coffee table to display our piety, yet the pages are still stuck together because they are never opened. God is calling us to a vibrant living faith that starts by getting back to the Bible and seriously reading it with the intention of putting it into practice in every area of life.

*But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.*



### James 1:22-25

**Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the Word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it- he will be blessed in what he does.**

Let’s look at the different elements:

- i) **“Do not merely listen to the Word...”**- Self-deception occurs when we read the Bible just like an ordinary book without taking serious thought in applying its principles and truths in our lives.
- ii) **“Do what it says.”**- This implies taking the Word for what it is without attaching conditions, loop holes, and clauses in order to provide an escape when it’s inconvenient to practice it. It also gives us a mandate for obedience and compliance without a fuss. We accept this since we know that the Bible is our final authority for all matters that pertain to life and conduct.

- iii) **“Is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror...”**- Sometimes we don’t like what we see. The Bible will give us an objective diagnosis of our lives and provides a treatment to be healed, made whole, and delivered. But it will only work for us if we follow the directions and take it as directed. The mirror of God’s Word will also show us glorious things of who we are in Christ! However, these things will not become a reality in our life until we put the Bible into practice. Otherwise, we will immediately forget what we look like in Christ.
- iv) **“But the man who looks intently...”**- Notice the approach this man takes- **“INTENTLY”** This adjective describes a focused, concentrated, deliberate and determined quest to explore the treasures and riches of God’s Word and systematically and consistently apply its’ truths in his/her life.
- v) **“Continues to do this...”**- It’s an ongoing lifestyle of daily reading, meditating and applying God’s Word consistently in our lives in order to bear good fruit for the Father’s pleasure.
- vi) **“Not forgetting what he has heard but doing it”**- The key to receiving God’s blessings is to practice the Word of God daily in our lives; as a result, we will not forget it because we are doing it. **Please Read \* Luke 8:19-21; 11:27-28; Philippians 4:9; Duet.30:11-19 \***

### 3 John 4

**I Have No Greater Joy Than To Hear That My Children Are Walking In The Truth!**

#### Ezekiel 33:30-32

“As for you, son of man, your countrymen are talking together about you by the walls and at the doors of the houses, saying to each other, ‘Come and hear the message that has come from the Lord.’ My people come to you, as they usually do, and sit before you to listen to your words, but **they do not put them into practice.** With their mouths they express devotion, but their hearts are greedy for unjust gain. Indeed, to them you are nothing more than one who sings love songs with a beautiful voice and plays an instrument well, for they hear your words but **do not put them into practice.**”



Let’s make the Word of God more than just a love song that sounds good to the ears. Let’s put it into practice in every area of our lives!

**There is no greater demonstration or expression of love to God than to obey His Word!**

#### John 14:15,21,23-24

“If you love me, you will **obey what I command.** Whoever has my commands and **obeys** them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him. If anyone loves me, he will **obey my teachings.** My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. he who does not love me **will not obey my teaching.** These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.”

### 1 John 5:2-3

**This is how we know that we love the children of God; by loving God and carrying out his commands. This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome.**

Love for God is simply demonstrated by walking in obedience to his Word. The world thinks that love is experiencing a warm gushy feeling that comes and goes like the wind. God defines love as action in truth, applying his Word in simple obedience.

**God defines love as action in truth:**

**“This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.” 1 John 4:9**

**“Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue only but with actions and in truth.” 1 John 3:18**



When our life is laid upon a solid foundation of applying God’s Word in our lives than we are building our life on a rock that will not move in midst of any storms of tests, trials or temptations. There is no greater security, hope or insurance than taking God at his Word and making it our final authority for all matters that pertain to life and conduct.

### Matthew 7:24-27

**“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”**

### 2 Timothy 3:14-17

**But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.**

So no more building our beliefs and doctrines by what we see happen in the lives of others or even our own life. Our beliefs have to be rooted and established in the written Word of God- 2 Corinthians 5:7 NKJV - *“For we walk by faith, not by sight.”* Otherwise the enemy will have a field day with our minds with all kinds of doubts. The cure for doubt is God’s word and the cure for unbelief, which is a stubborn refusal to believe the truth, is repentance- Mark 16:14 *“Jesus rebuked them for their lack of faith and their stubborn refusal to believe.”* Mark 16:14 NKJV *“He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe.”*

## 6. Must be Open and Teachable

The secrets of God's Word are revealed to those who approach it with a child-like humility that is open and teachable.

### Luke 10:21

At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit, said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure."

The Bible is a spiritual book that is only unlocked to the reader by the Holy Spirit. The believer must approach it as a child who, without question, accepts the sacred writings as absolute truth. Unfortunately, in our zeal for accuracy, biblical criticism has left the sensible boundaries of proper hermeneutics and has reasoned away the supernatural. This practice has thrown many people into a black hole of unbelief and confusion. God says what He means and means what He says. The Word of God will challenge us, and will require change- **we must be open to change!**

*"Let The Little Children  
Come To Me, And Do  
Not Hinder Them, For  
The Kingdom Of God  
Belongs To Such As  
These."*



Humility unlocks the truths of Scripture because, "God opposes the proud and gives grace to the humble." Humility is not defined or attained by hitting ourselves over the head with condemnation or wallowing in our past mistakes and failures- the devil is the instigator of that.

### Isaiah 66:2

"This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my Word"

### Isaiah 1:19

"If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the best from the land; but if you resist and rebel, you will be devoured by the sword."

### James 1:21

Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent, and humbly accept the Word planted in you, which can save you.

### Proverbs 3:1-2; 4:20-22

My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you prosperity. My son, pay attention to what I say; listen closely to my words. Do not let them out of your sight, keep them within your heart; for they are life to those who find them and health to a man's whole body.

The Word of God can be offensive to a person, because it works like a sword that penetrates our heart and exposes error and darkness in our lives. The Word of God judges us, and human nature recoils from being judged. Our first reaction might be to reason it away, reject it, and take offense at it. The Bible can be very blunt and to the point without much mercy, so it seems. However, light and darkness, right and wrong are two opposites without any gray middle ground, and that is just how God and His Word views things- Clearly.

**Like A Child, Submit To The Life Giving Correction And Instruction Of God's Word- Don't Be Afraid Or Too Proud To Admit You Were Wrong.**

**Hebrews 4:12**

**For the Word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.**

**2Timothy 3:16**

**All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, (Note: Heb. 5:11-14) so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.**

**Hebrews 12:10-11**

**Our Fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in his holiness. No disciplines seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.**

Remember the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, may cut like a sword in order to remove the weights and sins (Hebrews 12:1) of this world. Don't resist the pruning shears of the Father and his Word- John 15:1-8. It hurts good, in order to lead us to godly repentance (2Corinthians 7:8-13) and leaves no regret.

Statistics say that:

**80% of people who were born again received Christ before High school graduation.**

**10% more received Christ by the time they graduated from college.**

**10% is left from age 25 to 100 who will statistically receive salvation.**

**Proverbs 22:6**

**Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.**

People are like concrete. In the beginning, they can be molded and shaped into any form we wish, but in time they become fixed like a rock in one place. It often takes a jackhammer for people to change- we are creatures of habit. It's good to become fixed like a rock as long as the rock is Jesus Christ and the truth of His Word!

Jeremiah 23:29

“Is not my Word like a fire,” declares the Lord, “And like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?”

## God’s Word Can Take Care Of Any Cold Or Hard Heart!

- Remember the old song,



**I Shall, I Shall,  
I Shall Not Be Moved  
I Shall I Shall,  
I Shall Not Be Moved**

**Just Like A Tree That Is  
Planted By The Water,  
I Shall Not Be Moved**

What counts is being planted in God’s Word and not in the Traditions Of Men!

**Mark 7:6-13**

Jesus replied, “Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: ‘These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men.’ You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to the traditions of men. You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions! For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and mother,’ and, ‘Anyone who curses his father or mother must be put to death.’ But you say that if a man says to his father or mother: ‘Whatever help you might otherwise have received from me is Corban’(that is a gift devoted to God, then you no longer let him do anything for his father or mother. Thus you nullify the Word Of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many things like that.”

**2Timothy 4:3-4**

For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

We have been talking about being child-like in our approach to the Bible, because it will challenge us to change some of our belief systems and lifestyles. It will humble us to submit and yield our lives to God’s will. The key is to be like a child and humbly accept the Word of Truth that will save our souls. Let’s not allow the traditions of men or our own unbiblical traditions, rob us from walking into the light and liberty of God’s Word.

Let us not approach the Bible with our guards up to analyze, criticize, and argue with the truth that will never change. The Bible is not complicated to understand- just to receive at times.

**Colossians 2:6-8, 23**

**So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ. Such regulations indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence.**

*Lean not to your own understanding but in all your ways acknowledge him!*



**1Corinthians 1:17-18**

**For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel- not with words of human wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.**

**1Corinthians 2:1-5**

**When I came to you, brothers, I did not come with eloquence or superior wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling. My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power.**

**1Corinthians 4:20**

**For The Kingdom Of God Is Not A Matter Of Talk But Of Power**

Unit 1 Review:

What circumstances surround the writings of the Bible that prove it's inspired by God himself?

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Why are the fulfillment of thousands of prophecies of the Bible so important?

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Does the Bible contradict true science?

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What is it about the Scriptures themselves that speak for themselves concerning inspiration?

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What happens to the individual who reads the Bible, but does not put it into practice?

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What kind of an attitude do we need to approach the Bible?

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## II. The Power of God's Word



**For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God!**

**1 Corinthians 1:18**

My encouragement to you as you read this material is to be open in your thinking. There may be some unbiblical traditions and mentalities that will be challenged along the way, please don't turn me off. Of course you are not obligated to accept anything in this material if you can't see it plainly in the Word of God and bears witness with your spirit. However, if you begin to see things in the Word of God that may be a little different from what you have been accustomed to, we need to stay with the truth of God's Word and not what we thought the Bible said, or what another person said they thought the Bible said. I don't know about you, but if I am wrong in my thinking, I want to know about it and change so I can receive God's blessing in my life.

### **Isaiah 53:1**

**“Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?”**

Utterance is greatly affected by the hearer. It can be harder to get the message out in some places than others. This dynamic often times is found with the people who are listening or should I say, the manner in which they listen. When folks get excited and hungry things happen, but if they are bored and are thinking about what's for lunch, the Spirit of God is grieved.

In the gospel of John chapter 12, John by the Holy Spirit was making a connection with Jesus in regards to His miracle and healing ministry as a fulfillment of Isaiah 53:1. However, this principle of “Believing the Report” or lack thereof has broad application today.

### **John 12:37-41**

**Even after Jesus had done all these miraculous signs in their presence, they still would not believe in him. This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet: “Lord, who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?” For this reason they could not believe, because, as Isaiah says elsewhere: “He has blinded their eyes and deadened their hearts, so they can neither see with their eyes, nor understand with their hearts, nor turn — and I would heal them.” Isaiah said this because he saw Jesus' glory and spoke about him.**

Let's talk a little about the Arm of the Lord. For example, the Arm of the Lord was exerted when God raised Jesus from the dead, but when it came to casting out demons, it only takes His finger to flick them- Luke 11:20, “*But if I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come to you.*” The arm of the Lord or the power of God is revealed on behalf of those who believe the report.

The Scriptures declare that the power of God is revealed to those who believe the report. Note to self, upon hearing the Word if I still don't have any joy and peace over the circumstances of life, then I have not believed the report.

## A. The Truth Makes us Free

No matter how dark the situation may be, if I hear the Word on a subject that I am dealing with, and am still just as sad, upset and full of fear, then I simply have not believed the report of God's Word. If we believe the report it affects us inside and out and will reveal a visible change because we believe the good news. If we say, "But the doctor says I'm going to die in a few weeks..." then we don't believe the Report of the Lord- which says in Psalms 118:17, "*I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done.*" Rather, some believe the doctor's report instead of God's report, because that is what the world says we are to do.

For those who esteem the Word and come out to hear the Word when it is ministered because they know the Word will make a difference in their life, they will not be disappointed. The Word is at work only in those who believe the good report of God's Word.



**And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe.**

**1 Thessalonians 2:13**

### 1. Grace Filled Words

The Bible is saturated, permeated, impregnated, infused and full of His **GRACE & POWER**.

I would like to offer an alternative to the traditional definition of grace, "God's unmerited favor" with one that is in keeping with Scripture. "Grace is God's power at work in those who believe to do what they don't have the power in themselves to do." The grace of God speaks of God's power and ability, while "unmerited favor" actually speaks of God's mercy and disposition towards humanity.

#### **Ephesians 2:8-10**

**For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.**

#### **Romans 1:16**

**For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the Power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes.**

#### **Ephesians 3:7**

**I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power.**

#### **Colossians 1:29**

**To this end I labor, struggling with all his energy, which so powerfully works in me.**

#### **1 Corinthians 15:10**

**But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them- yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.**

### **1 Thessalonians 2:13 AMP**

**“...the Word of God, which is effectually at work in you who believe [exercising its superhuman power in those who adhere to and trust in and rely on it].”**

Now that we know what the Grace of God is “The Power of God,” how do we receive this power of God into our lives. Well first and foremost, God’s Grace is contained in God’s Word. As we just saw in Ephesians 2:8-10 and Romans 1:16, the “Power of God” for salvation is released into our lives when we mix the Gospel message with our faith. The Word of God contains the grace of God!

**John 17:17- Sanctify them by the truth; your **word is truth.****

### **John 1:14, 16-17**

**The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. For the law was given through Moses; **grace and truth** came through Jesus Christ.**

### **Acts 20:32**

**“Now I commit you to God and to **the word of his grace**, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.”**

Words are containers of the substance by which they are communicated- love or hate, good or evil, blessing or cursing. God’s Word contains His grace (**God’s Power & Ability**).

### **Luke 6:63**

**The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The Words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.**

God’s Words are containers for a spirit and life substance called grace; placing God’s Word in a class all by itself.

**Spirit (Greek- Pneuma)-** The Same Holy Spirit that Jesus poured out on the day of Pentecost to give us **POWER** to be a witness- Acts 1:8. God’s Word is charged with the Spirit’s power and anointing.

**Life (Greek- Zoe)-** Same Greek word that refers to eternal life- 1 John 5:11-12. The very nature and essence of God is wrapped up in His Word, and is imparted into our lives through faith.

### **Proverbs 4:20-22**

**My son, pay attention to what I say; listen closely to my words. Do not let them out of your sight, keep them within your heart; for they are **life** to those who find them and **health** to a man’s whole body.**

### **James 1:18**

**He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.**

### **1 Peter 1:23**

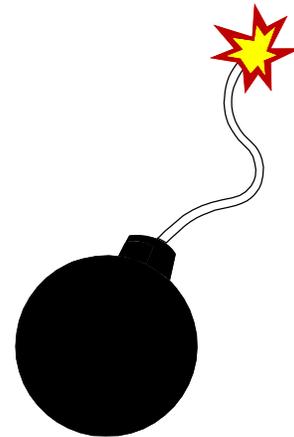
**For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.**

To know what the Word of God has to say on a matter is the only sufficient evidence or legal basis for appropriating faith. The power to provide and change circumstances is locked up in the seed itself, the life of the seed to produce according to its kind is in itself. All that is left for us to do is to release and unlock that power of God, called grace that is contained in His Word through the spiritual laws of faith.

**God's Word contains explosive power:**

**Power To Save  
Power To Heal  
Power To Deliver & Set Us Free**

**“ If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”  
John 8:31-32**



**The Bible Is The Power Of God For Salvation!**

**Power (Greek- Dunamis)-** The same Greek word in **Acts 2:8**, speaks of the influence and spiritual dynamics of the Holy Spirit in our lives. This same power is released in our lives through faith in God's Word.

**1 Thessalonians 1:4-5**

**Brothers loved by God, we know that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with POWER, with the HOLY SPIRIT, and with DEEP CONVICTION.**

Notice the connection between the Holy Spirit and the Word of God. They are in complete agreement and work together in perfect harmony. In **1John 2:27**, the Bible refers to the Holy Spirit as the anointing. According to Jesus, his Word is "**spirit and is life**"; in other words, God's Word is Spirit anointed, containers of God's grace and power. Since it is anointed, God's Word destroys every yoke of bondage and sets us free from the power of the enemy.

**Isaiah 10:27**

**It shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.**

## **God's Word Is Anointed!**

For example, the gifts of the Spirit do not have to be in manifestation in order for someone to receive healing. I have seen some of the most miraculous healings take place where there was no move of the Spirit whatsoever or nobody around, but people simply believed God's Word. Simply by teaching people what the Word of God says about healing and letting them receive healing from God's Word. We don't have to be in a special meeting to get healing. "I really need to get to where the anointing is" but already we have the anointing, for the Word of God is anointed!

The Holy Spirit through the Apostle Paul made an outstanding statement in Romans 1:16, *“I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation...”* Dr. Scofield, a Greek and Hebrew scholar, made a reference to this verse in his footnotes in regards to the word “salvation” that is awesome. Dr. Scofield says, “The Greek and Hebrew words translated salvation imply the ideas of **deliverance, safety, preservation, healing, and health.**” “Salvation is the great inclusive word of the Gospel, gathering into itself all the redemptive acts and processes.” The Greek word for “salvation” is *soteria*, implies deliverance, preservation, healing, health, soundness, and in the New Testament is applied sometimes to the spirit or soul, and at other times to the body only. The Greek word “*sozo*” translated “saved,” also means “healed,” “made sound,” or “made whole.” In Romans 10:9 is translated “saved,” and in Acts 14:9 the same word is translated “healed” in referring to the healing of the man lame from birth. Both Greek words for “salvation” and “saved” mean both spiritual and physical salvation; or in other words, spiritual new birth and physical healing.

## **Salvation = Deliverance, Safety, Preservation, Healing And Health!**

Glory to God! The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the power of God unto deliverance! The Gospel is the power of God unto safety! It is the power of God unto preservation! And it is the power of God unto healing and health! In Acts 14:6-7, it states that Paul and Barnabas continued to preach the good news of the gospel in the surrounding country side.

### **Acts 14:6-10**

**But they found out about it and fled to the Lycaonian cities of Lystra and Derbe and to the surrounding country, where they continued to preach the good news. In Lystra there sat a man crippled in his feet, who was lame from birth and had never walked. He listened to Paul as he was speaking. Paul looked directly at him, saw that he had faith to be healed and called out, “Stand up on your feet!” At that, the man jumped up and began to walk.**

We have seen that the implication of “Salvation” involves a lot more than just the remission of sins. The Church of the Lord Jesus Christ has majored on just one aspect of salvation- the remission of sins. As important as that is, there is more to it than just that as Dr. Scofield has pointed out. In Acts 14:8-10, we can agree that Paul was preaching the gospel, the message of salvation. With that being said, Paul had to be talking about Christ the Healer and God’s will for everyone to be well! I say that because in Romans 10:17, it is stated that faith comes by hearing the Word of God on a matter. In the above account in the book of Acts, a crippled man was listening to Paul speak and had faith to be healed. Therefore, Paul had to have incorporated the message of healing in his presentation of the gospel!

So we see that God’s primary source of grace is released into our lives through our faith in His Word. Not that the Bible is the only source of grace for the believer, but I believe it is the main and primary avenue. For we can approach His throne of Grace at any time and obtain grace and help in our time of need. We receive grace given through prayer, praise & worship, manifestations of the Spirit, and the ministry of the body of Christ among others.

### **Hebrews 4:15-16**

**For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are — yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.**

## 2. God's Word Is Living and Active

The Bible is a living spiritual book, pulsating with the life of God. All Scripture is God-breathed. Another Greek rendering for **living** is "Quick and Alive" and for **active**, "Operative, Effectual, and Powerfully Working". In other words the Bible is not another dead book. The pages of the Bible record living words that **DO SOMETHING!**

### Hebrews 4:12

**For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.**

### Hebrews 4:12 (Interlinear Version)

**For the word of God is living, and powerfully working, and sharper than every two-edged sword, even piercing as far as the dividing apart of both soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.**

### Acts 7:38

**Moses was in the assembly in the desert, with our fathers and with the angel who spoke to him on Mount Sinai; and he received living words to pass on to us.**

The word "Living" in Acts 7:38 is the same Greek word for "Living" in Hebrews 4:12.

The Word of God is, "*Sharper than any double-edged sword...*" according to Hebrews 4:12. It's one of our main offensive spiritual weapons that God has given us. The devil has no chance in standing up against the power of God's Word. However, the sword refers to God's Word coming up from our hearts, and out of our mouths- the Spirit of Faith, "*I believed; therefore I have spoken*" in 2 Corinthians 4:13.

### Ephesians 6:17

**Take the helmet of salvation and the **SWORD** of the Spirit, which is the **WORD OF GOD**.**

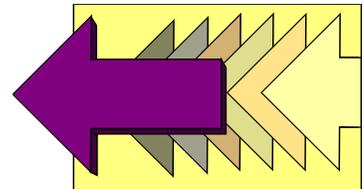
### 2 Corinthians 6:7

**With weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left.**

### 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

**For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.**

**We Have Under Estimated  
God's Word  
Much Too Long!**



Jesus wielded the sword of the spirit during His encounter with the devil by speaking God's Word. We can't enforce Satan's defeat with our feelings or emotions, but God's Word will bring him into subjection every time. In the temptation of Jesus, the devil first enticed His physical appetites by appealing to His hunger, next he appealed to the soul realm of pride, and finally the spiritual realm of worship and devotion. Jesus conquered the devil in every realm through speaking God's Word as a sword!

#### **1 John 2:14**

**"I write to you young men, because you are strong, and the word of God lives in you and you have overcome the evil one."**

#### **Matthew 4:1-13**

**Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"**



# **It Is Written!**

As believers, it's God's will for us to speak His Word out loud to ourselves, the world, and the devil with great boldness and authority.

#### **Acts 4:29-31**

**"Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus." After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the Word of God boldly.**

#### **Philippians 1:14**

**Because of my chains, most of the brothers in the Lord have been encouraged to speak the Word of God more courageously and fearlessly.**

Begin speaking God's Word to the mountains of circumstance in your life and watch them dissolve before you! Let's not wrestle in the flesh to work out our own problems in our own finite strength- put your faith in God's Word and let the Word work for you.

#### **Galatians 3:3-5**

**Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort? Have you suffered so much for nothing- if it really was for nothing? Does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you because you observe the law, or because you believe what you heard?**

### **Mark 11:22-24**

**“Have faith in God,” Jesus answered. “I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.”**

God confirms His Word with signs and wonders. The Bible releases the power of God in the world and in our lives today. God does not confirm our opinions, manmade traditions, or today’s news on current events. God only confirms His Word with signs and wonders! That is why I use so many Scriptures in my teaching material.

**Also Acts 10:36-46; 11:1, 14-15**

### **Mark 16:20**

**Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it.**

### **Acts 8:5-8**

**Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Christ there. When the crowds heard Philip and saw the miraculous signs he did, they all paid close attention to what he said. With shrieks, evil spirits came out of many, and many paralytics and cripples were healed. So there was great joy in that city.**

## **God Confirms His Word With Signs & Wonders!**

### **Hebrews 2:1-4**

**We must pay more careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away. For if the message spoken by angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment, how shall we escape if we ignore such a GREAT salvation? This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him. God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.**

### **Acts 14:3, 8-10**

**So Paul and Barnabas spent considerable time there, speaking boldly for the Lord, who confirmed the message of his grace by enabling them to do miraculous signs and wonders. In Lystra there sat a man crippled in his feet, who was lame from birth and had never walked. He listened to Paul as he was speaking. Paul looked directly at him, saw that he had faith to be healed and called out, “Stand up on your feet!” At that, the man jumped up and began to walk.**



**God's Word is explosive in nature to produce life and blessing in our lives. When spoken with faith from the heart, God's Word releases the very power of God to:**

**Save the Lost/ Raise the dead/ Cast out devils/  
Heal the sick/ Minister hope and comfort/  
Change circumstances and provide every need.**

I Love God's Powerfully Working Word!

### **1 Thessalonians 1:13**

**And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe.**

Let this be our confession, "The Word is working mightily in me, yes the Word is working mightily in me, no matter what the circumstances, what I feel or see, the Word is working mightily in me."

The Greek word "**Work**" as stated in 1 Thessalonians 1:13, is **energeo-** To be active, efficient, work effectually in, fervent, be mighty in, to show forth thyself. The energy of God is released in our lives through His Word. Just as it's demonstrated through the prayer of faith in James 5:16, "*Makes tremendous power available, powerful and effective- dynamic in its working,*" the Word of God has the same affect in our lives.

### **Philippians 2:13**

**For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.**

### **Ephesians 2:10**

**For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works which God prepared in advance for us to do.**

Our Lives Are A Product Of God's Word Working In Us!

**Sharper than any double-edged sword-** The Word of God penetrates and pierces the heart of man. No other book in the world has that ability but the Bible. It is the only standard by which we can discern and understand the inner parts of man- the spirit and soul. It's also the only way we can differentiate what is motivating us- our spirit, soul, or body.

### **Luke 24:27,32**

**And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, Jesus explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. Then they asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"**

The Greek word "Burning" means: to set on fire, kindle, consume, burn with light. The Amplified translation puts it as, "*Was not our heart greatly moved and burning within us.*" Jeremiah 23:29 says, "*Is not my word like a fire.*" It's no wonder that the devil and his demons are so afraid of God's Word coming out of our mouths. It's a flaming two-edged sword that pierces and penetrates them-  
Jeremiah 5:14

# God's Word Pierces And Penetrates My Heart

**Hebrews 4:12**

**“It judges the thoughts and attitudes(intentions, motives or desires) of the heart.”**

God's Word burns, pierces, and penetrates our heart to expose error and cut away every weight and sin that hinders us according to Hebrews 12:1. Please read Acts 7:51-60.

**Hebrews 12:29 - “For our God is a consuming fire.”**

**James 4:1-3**

**What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.**

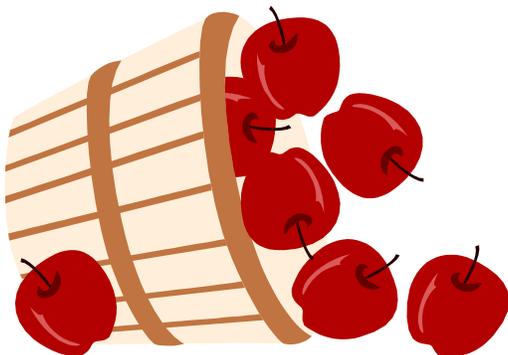
**Acts 2:36-37, 41**

**“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.” When the people heard this THEY WERE CUT TO THE HEART and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.**

God's Word is living seed that germinates and produces life and substance to meet every need of our lives. Our spirit is the ground in which the living seed is planted to produce an abundant harvest. Take God's Word and sow it in your life by confessing the Scriptures, and in time you will reap a harvest.

**Luke 8:11,15**

**Jesus said, “This is the meaning of the parable: The SEED IS THE WORD OF GOD. The seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop- thirty, sixty or even a hundred times what was sown.”**



**God Is In The  
Multiplication  
Business!**

When we release God's word out of our mouths from our heart, it goes forth into the world and produces results. Night and day, 24 hours a day the Word of God is working, growing, spreading and producing fruit. When we release God's Word into the earth, it will not return to us void without producing substance for the things we hope for.

### Isaiah 55:10

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: it will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

### Mark 4:26-29

Jesus also said, “This is what the kingdom of heaven is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. All by itself the soil produces grain- first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come.”

Notice, “*The seed sprouts and grows... All by itself the soil produces grain.*” What a rest to just let the Word of God do the work. It’s living seed that produces fruit when we plant it in our hearts.

### Psalms 107:20

He sent forth his word and healed them; he rescued them from the grave.

### Proverbs 4:20-22

My son, pay attention to what I say; listen closely to my words. Do not let them out of your sight, keep them within your heart; for they are life to those who find them and health to a man’s whole body.

Put The Word To Work In Your Life!

### God’s Word Expands In Power

When the gospel is preached, God’s Word grows, and expands in power throughout the earth.

### Colossians 1:3-6

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints- the faith and love that spring from the hope that is stored up for you in heaven and that you have already heard about in the word of truth, the gospel that has come to you. All over the world this gospel is producing fruit and growing, just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood God’s grace in all its truth.

### Acts 12:24; 19:20

But the word of God continued to increase and spread. In this way the word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power.

## The Preaching Of The Gospel Always Proceeds Revival In The Earth!

God’s Word cannot be chained, bound by any power, government, or demonic work of any kind. God’s Word cannot fail or pass away. It’s eternal and stands firm in the heavens- “*Scripture cannot be broken*” according to John 10:34

## **2 Timothy 2:8-9**

**Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained.**

# **God's Word Is Not Chained!**

## **3. Jesus The Word Of God**

The Word of God is not just words as we know them, but is actually referring to a person- the second person of the God Head. Before his incarnation and the name "Jesus" was given to Him, He was known only as the "Word Of God." He is still referred to this name as we will see in the book of Revelation. The Bible is more than a book, but represents God himself in the flesh on paper for us to receive. We hear His voice, see His power, and experience His Spirit through the sacred Scriptures. As we partake of the Bible as a living experience, we encounter the "Word of God" himself by the Holy Spirit. Revelation knowledge bursts in our heart and becomes alive as we become introduced to our living savior, the Father and the Holy Spirit. The light of His Word floods our inner being to impart grace and truth and we are changed forever.

### **John 1:1-5,**

**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not overcome it.**

We have been speaking about the life of God "ZOE" eternal life. This life is packed into God's Word, the Bible. Here we see where that life comes from- Jesus Christ. This life produces light which produces revelation knowledge and understanding of who God is, and His plan of redemption for our lives.

### **1John 1:1-3**

**That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched- this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.**

Jesus is the Word of God. If we want more of Jesus in our life, we must continue to receive His living words into our hearts and minds in order to conform us into His image and likeness with ever increasing glory.

### **2 Corinthians 3:17-18**

**Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is there is freedom. And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.**

### **Colossians 3:9-10**

**Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.**

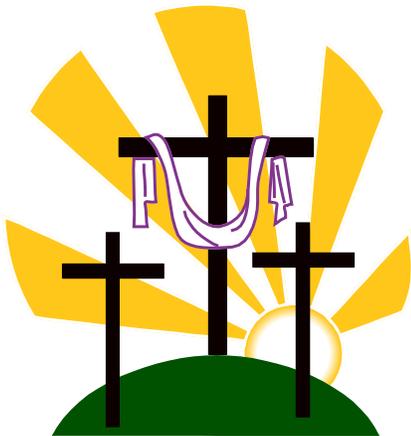
I am not advocating that we worship the Bible as a book in and of itself, but through the Word of God we come into relationship and fellowship with Him by His Word. Without the Scriptures, we are at a loss to know who God is and what His kingdom is all about. The Bible is His expressed will to us and through it we receive eternal life, and daily bread to sustain us in this world. The Bible is the door to relationship with our creator. Without it we are a lost people groping in the darkness, because His light shines in our lives through His Word- *“Hold Out The Word Of Life”* Philippians 2:16.

**John 5: 24; 8:51**

Jesus said, **“I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life. I tell you the truth, if a man keeps my word, he will never see death.”**

**John 5:36-40**

**“I have testimony weightier than that of John. For the very work that the Father has given me to finish, and which I am doing, testifies that the Father has sent me. And the Father who sent me has himself testified concerning me. You have never heard his voice nor seen his form, nor does his word dwell in you, for you do not believe the one he sent. You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life.”**



**The Bible Is The  
Revelation Of  
Jesus Christ!**

**“Lord, To Whom Shall We Go?  
You Have The Words Of Eternal Life!” John 6:68**

**John 12:49-50**

**“For I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it. I know that his commands leads to eternal life. So whatever I say is just what the Father has told me to say.”**

The Word (Jesus Christ) is full of grace and truth. From the fullness of His grace, we have all received one blessing after another. Grace and truth is imparted into our lives through His holy written Word. I'll say it again, the Bible is God's impartation of grace and truth into our lives by the Holy Spirit. We can never get enough of God's Word in our lives. Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly-  
Colossians 3:16.

### **John 1:14, 16-17**

**The Word became flesh and lived for a while among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.**

### **Ephesians 1:13-14**

**And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession- to the praise of his glory.**

We have been saying that Grace (God's Power & Ability) is released into our lives through mixing God's Word with our faith. This is a fact, as pointed out in our main text for this lesson: Acts 20:32 *"Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified."*

### **2 Peter 1:1-3**

**Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ have received a faith as precious as ours: Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.**

### **2 Peter 3:18**

**But grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.**

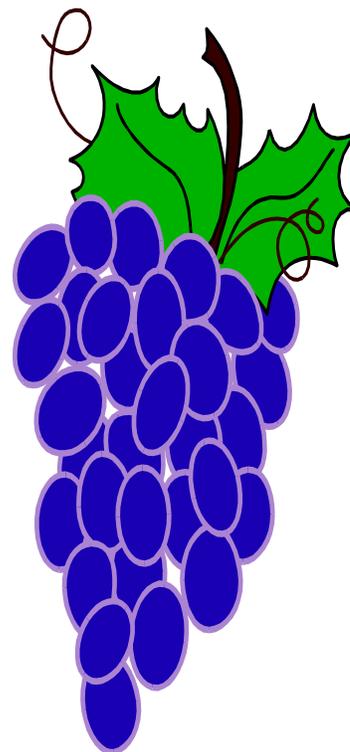
## **More Word More Grace - Less Word Less Grace**

Scripture makes it very plain. Grace (God's Power & Ability) is multiplied in our life through faith in God's Word. Revelation knowledge of the Bible in our spirit, releases His divine power into our lives to give us all things that pertain to life and godliness.

When we abide in God's Word through faith, we share in the nourishing sap of the vine (Romans 11:17-24), and receive life and grace to bear fruit for the Father. However, we must remain in Jesus through abiding in His Word. Abiding in God's Word and applying it in our lives is what is meant by abiding in relationship with God and bearing fruit.

**“ I am the true vine and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he trims clean so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.**

**John 15:1-8**



## **Grace Be Multiplied To You Through His Word!**

**Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.**

**Revelation 1:3**



Jesus, as the Word of God, executes judgment by the Word He has spoken. We can also judge ourselves by God’s Word and walk in the truth.

### **Revelations 19:11-16**

**I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. His has a name written on him that no one but he himself knows. He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. the armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. “he will rule them with an iron scepter.” He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: **KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.****

### **John 12:47-48**

**“As for the person who hears my words but does not keep them, I do not judge him. For I did not come to judge the world, but to save it. There is a judge for the one who rejects me and does not accept my words; that very word which I spoke will condemn him at the last day.”**

### **1 Corinthians 11:31**

**But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment. When we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned with the world.**

### **2 Timothy 3:16-17**

**All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.**

Through Jesus (the Word of God), the heavens and earth were created. Through the spoken Word God out of our mouths, He continues to create heaven on earth in our lives today. God’s Word brings substance to the things we hope for and creates life and blessings where there was death and lack. God wants us to speak His creative Word in the earth, and to manifest His kingdom in our lives and in the lives of others. His Word carries authority to produce miracles and demonstrations of God’s power through the Holy Spirit. We have already read in John chapter 1 how the Father through the Word created all things; without him nothing was made that has been made- *“He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him”* John 1:10.

### **Hebrews 1:1-3**

**In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his POWERFUL WORD. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.**

### **Colossians 1:15-17**

**He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.**

### **Genesis 1:1-3,26**

**In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”**

### **Hebrews 11:3**

**By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.**

God operates by faith, by speaking His powerful, creative Word that gives substance to the things He speaks into existence. He speaks and it happens! What a sacred honor for God to give us His living Word to speak, and watch it add substance to the things we hope for.

**Luke 17:6**

Jesus replied, “If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it will obey you.”

**Mark 11:22-23**

“Have faith in God,” Jesus answered. “I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, ‘Go throw yourself into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him.”

Jesus is our example. His ministry exhibited a man anointed with the Holy Spirit who spoke the Word of God with authority and was confirmed with powerful signs and wonders.

**Luke 4:31-32**

Then he went down to Capernaum, a town in Galilee, and on the Sabbath began to teach the people. They were amazed at his teaching, because his message had authority.

**John 3:34**

For the one whom God has sent speaks the words of God; to him God gives the Spirit without limit.

**Matthew 4:23-24**

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, demon-possessed, the epileptics and the paralytics, and he healed them.

**Acts 10:38**

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, because God was with him.

**John 14:12**

I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

**1 John 2:5-6**

But if anyone obeys my word, God’s love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.

**We Must Walk As Jesus Did!**

#### 4. The Bread of Life

The Bible is the bread of life for our spiritual growth and the development in the Christian faith.

**John 6:25-27, 30-33, 35**

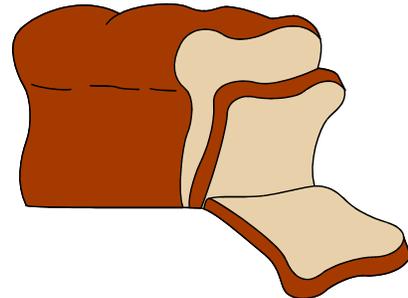
**When they found him in the other side of the lake, they asked him, “Rabbi, when did you get here?” Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, you are looking for me, not because you saw miraculous signs but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. On him God the Father has placed his seal of approval. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world. I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.”**

Our daily bread consists of the Word of God. As we have already discussed, Jesus is the incarnated Word from the Father. Eternal life is released through His Word. Breaking open the daily bread of the Bible, gives us the spiritual strength to walk out our Christian faith. The Holy Spirit is faithful to serve us the bread from heaven (Revealing Jesus) as we partake of the Scriptures.

**God’s Word is spiritual food for our spirit.**

**Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”**

**Matthew 4:4**



#### **The Word Of God Is To Our Spirit As Natural Food Is To Our Physical Body**

Natural food contains energy called calories. When we study the food cycle, all our food sources come from the sun’s energy. That awesome power is converted into biological matter that sustains life on this earth. We have read in Hebrews 4:12 that, “*For the Word of God is living and active*” and in 2 Timothy 3:16, “*All Scripture is God-breathed.*” The Son of God shines His light and breathes His Spirit into the Word of His grace and it’s alive and full of life. It releases spiritual calories that are converted into spiritual energy for us to, “*In Him we live, move and have our being*” Acts 17:28.

**Job 23:12**

**I have not departed from the commands of his lips; I have treasured the words of his mouth more than my daily bread.**

**Jeremiah 15:16**

**When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart’s delight, for I bear your name, O Lord God Almighty.**

Food is the substance that gives life and energy and speaks of sustaining power. God’s Word produces the same effects for our spiritual life which encompasses our whole being and destiny. Notice by these Scriptures that it involves an act of our free will to open our mouth and eat it, but it’s easy when we are eating the honey of God’s Word- our joy and our heart’s delight.

**Ezekiel 2:8; 3:1-3**

**You must speak my words to them, whether they listen or fail to listen, for they are rebellious. But you, son of man, listen to what I say to you. Do not rebel like that rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you.” And he said to me, “Son of man, eat what is before you, eat this scroll; then go and speak to the house of Israel.” So I opened my mouth, and he gave me the scroll to eat, and it tasted as sweet as honey in my mouth.**

**Psalm 119:103**

**How sweet are your promises to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!**

**Psalm 19:9-11**

**The ordinances of the Lord are sure and altogether righteous. They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb. By them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.**

**We feed our physical bodies 3 hot meals a day and our spirit man one cold snack a week and wonder why we are not strong in the Lord and in the power of his might (Ephesians 6:10).**

**To be strong in the Lord is to be full of God’s Word through a consistent diet of Bible reading and meditation.**



**Colossians 3:16**

**Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.**

Do not worry about becoming over weight with God’s Word. It does not have the same negative effects as obesity does in the natural. As a matter of fact, the Scriptures admonish us to be full of God’s Word. Physically we cannot live on a few snacks a week. We cannot afford it spiritually either. To be equipped and nourished spiritually is more important than it is for our physical bodies, because to be spiritually sound has eternal implications. A spirit depleted of God’s Word is a weak, feeble, and frail spirit, unable to deal with life’s issues that confront us.

**1 Timothy 4:8**

**For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.**

**Let The Word Of Christ Dwell In You Richly!**

Spiritual growth and development comes from the milk and meat of God's Word. We have just read that God's Word is food for our spirit. Now we will see that God's Word addresses subjects of varying depth for spiritual development that range from milk to meat.

The Milk of God's Word speaks of the very basics that new believers should be exposed to in order to build foundational truths for their Christian life. Natural milk is very easy to consume and digest, God designed the mother's formula to be perfectly suited for the baby's physical growth needs. The same is true for certain biblical subjects which is God's formula for spiritual babies to feed, grow and develop spiritually. Discretion must be taken for Pastors and other church leaders to assess their congregations spiritual level of development, and feed them accordingly so they will grow by the Word and not be choked and offended by the Word.

**In general you can locate a person's spiritual level of development by their behavior and fruit capacity in their lives.**

**We see in Galatians 5:11-26, the contrast between a spirit or flesh dominated believer. Walking in the spirit is simply walking in love, walking in the flesh is walking in selfishness as demonstrated by the acts of the flesh.**

**The answer is progressive spiritual growth through a constant diet of God's Word. In time we will grow through each stage just like in the natural- baby, toddler child, teenager, young adult, adult, senior. So just act your spiritual age with no condemnation and keep growing- God loves you the same! There is no short cut but we can learn to co-operate and take deliberate steps to grow at a healthy rate.**



### **1Peter 2:1-3**

**Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and spiritual slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.**

**“Who have tasted the heavenly gift...” Heb.6:4.** Tasting that the Lord is good and have tasted of the heavenly gift is speaking of the new birth. When a person is born again they are a newborn baby in the kingdom of God. He may be 100 years old physically, but in the spiritual realm he was just born into God's family and the angels are rejoicing.

## **Crave Spiritual Milk, So That By It You May Grow Up In Your Salvation!**

### **1Corinthians 3:1-4**

**Brothers, I could not address you as spiritual but as worldly- mere infants in Christ. I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere men? For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Appolos,” are you not mere men?**

This Scripture is rich with spiritual insight about the development of believers. Like 1 Peter 2:1-3, the issue of jealousy, envy, strife, quarreling, and other petty bickering are all signs of spiritual immaturity. That is how the world operates, a rat race of dog eat dog. When a person gets born again and comes out of that environment, it takes time to renew their mind, and develop the love nature in their hearts to the point where it dominates how they live and how life issues are faced.

Notice there is a time frame indicated here from taking the milk of God's Word and being weaned onto solid food. The Corinthian believers were not yet ready, because their behavior was evidence of where they were spiritually- Paul points this out quite clearly. As the Word of God takes effect in believers' lives, they will demonstrate more of the fruit of love in their life. That is a indicator to start introducing the solid matters of God's Word.

To feed a baby meat is very dangerous and harmful, because he has no teeth to break the food down; his digestive system is too immature to assimilate it into his system. The nutritional value of meat is too strong in protein for the baby to handle.

### **Conclusion:**

- Babies do not have the ability to chew and swallow meat
- The digestive system is not equipped to digest solids yet
- The nutrient content is too strong for babies to handle

### **John 6:60-61**

**On hearing it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?" Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, "Does this offend you?"**

### **John 16:12-13**

**Jesus said, "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth..."**

**Example: The gentiles being joint-heirs with Israel of salvation- Acts 10 - 11; Ephesians 2:11-22**

### **Hebrews 5:11-14**

**We have much to say about this, but it is hard to explain because you are slow to learn. In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's Word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.**

Here is some more insight into spiritual growth, milk consists of the elementary truths of God's Word. Again this Scripture denotes babyhood with milk, and maturity with solid food based on Bible subjects that can be accepted and understood- without becoming offended and spitting it back out. We see that the teaching about righteousness is solid food.

Through a constant diet of solid food, the believer gains discernment to distinguish good from evil. The mature believer can rightly divide the Scriptures and expose fraud and error from false teachers and the devil.

## Hebrews 6:1-4

Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again the foundation of :

- Repentance From Acts That Lead To Death.
- Faith In God.
- Instruction About Baptisms: (Into Christ {1Cor.12:13}, Water, Holy Spirit)
- The Laying On Of Hands.
- The Resurrection Of The Dead
- Eternal Judgment

The above Bible topics are elementary, foundational, and first beliefs for the new Christian. This is the milk of God's Word by which we can go onto maturity.

## Ephesians 4:11-14

It was Jesus who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming.

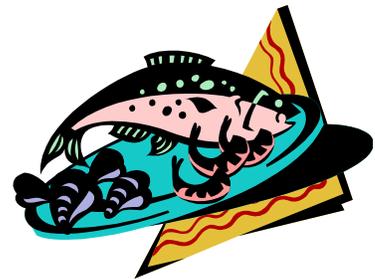
The five-fold ministry gifts use the Word of God to prepare God's people for works of service. Unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God, and becoming mature is only done by the Word of God and the work of the Holy Spirit. As a result, we will no longer be the infants in Christ who are unstable, naive, and easily deceived.

## 2 Timothy 3:14-15

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

Let us approach the banquet table of God's Word with a hearty appetite and eat our fill of His salvation!

The Bible is our source of spiritual food and nourishment for the new babe in Christ and the mature believer. There is always something good to eat in heaven's kitchen.



We feed our spirit through meditating in the Word of God. In our western world, we are the fastest readers on the earth. Like the rest of our culture, everything is fast- quantity without a whole lot of quality. Meditation speaks of a slow savoring process that submerges oneself in the Bible to extract spiritual truth by the Holy Spirit and purposely speak it out of our mouths so we can hear it- Romans 10:17 NKJV, "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Remember how Mom would tell us at the dinner table, “Now you need to chew each mouth full 20 to 30 times before you swallow.” The wisdom in these words kept us from having an upset stomach. The Bible needs to be approached the same way; Give yourself lots of time, and do not get in a hurry. Do not set some quota for yourself- 10 pages in 10 minutes. Allow yourself time to take each verse at a time, and chew on it, and extract all the wonderful revelation before you move onto the next bite.

**“Meditate” in the Hebrew-** To murmur or mutter, to ponder, imagine, speak, study, talk and utter.

**We need to eat the Bible like a cow eats grass:**

**Graze in the pastures of God’s Word.  
Chew it in your mouth and heart for a long time.  
Bring it back up later on and chew on it some more.**

**Be prayerful as you read the Bible; Ask the Holy Spirit for understanding and revelation. Reflect, resonate, savor, relish, mutter, and speak God’s Word. Take it from Betsy!**



#### **Joshua 1:7-8**

**Be strong and courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.**

Here is the Biblical precedence for Bible meditation- it should be done Day & Night. Meditation is described as speaking the Word of God out of our mouths. So what would be the result if we made this a lifestyle? We would prosper and be successful of course!

**Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers. Psalm 1:1-3**



**Bible Meditation + Careful Application = Prosperity and Success!**

#### **Psalms 119:9-11**

**How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word. I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.**

**Proverbs 23:7 KJV- As a man thinketh in his heart so is he...**

Bible meditation hides the Word of God in our hearts so that it becomes a part of us. Therefore our thoughts, motives, and intents of our hearts are conformed to God's Word which produces actions that are in accordance to the will of God. God's Words in our mouths creates God's thoughts, which produces godly actions that result in blessing.

*Words = Thoughts = Actions  
= Life or Death*

**Psalm 119:**

**Vs 15- I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways.**

**Vs 23-24- Your servant will meditate on your decrees. Your statutes are my delight; they are my counselors.**

**Vs 48- I reach out my hands for your commandments, which I love, and I meditate on your decrees.**

**Vs 148- My eyes stay open through the watches of the night, that I may meditate on your promises.**

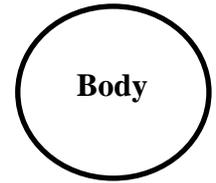
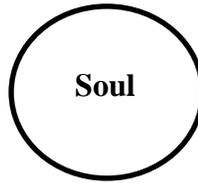
I pray that we may all have the same kind of commitment to God's Word that David had. Remember, Bible meditation is not like taking leisure time reading a magazine. It's a continual abiding and feeding upon the bread of life from heaven. Did you notice in the above passages that through God's Word we gain insight into God's ways, and obtain counsel for life's situations. The Bible is our compass for life's journey that leads us into heaven on earth and heaven ever after.

**These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.**

**Duet. 6:6-9**



**Frame Your Home With The Spoken  
Word Of God!**



**1 Thessalonians 5:23**

**May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus.**

Human beings are a triune being comprised of three parts- Spirit, Soul & Body. I am a spirit, I have a soul and I live in a body. We have been discussing that meditating in God’s Word is the key way of feeding our spirit with the life and grace of God.

Our physical body grows and develops through proper diet, exercise, and rest. Our spirit man grows and develops through feeding on God’s Word, putting it into practice, and resting in His presence. Remember, in order for our spirit to experience normal and proper growth, we must be consistent in meditating in the Bible as we are in eating three meals a day for our physical body.

**Feed your spirit through meditating in the Word of God. Putting the Word on your tongue is like putting a fork to your mouth! How do you increase your appetite for God’s Word?**

- 1) As you eat more each day, your capacity to receive will naturally increase.**
- 2) Exercise, by putting God’s Word into practice, this will create a hearty appetite every time.**



**Put The Word In Your Mouth  
For Another Bite!**

Unit 2 Review:

If words are containers, than what does God’s Word contain?

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What is meant by the Scriptures being “Living and Active?”

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Jesus said in Luke 8:11 that “The Seed is the Word of God” what does that mean?

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What does the Greek Word “ZOE” stand for?

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How is the Bible transformed into living bread for us to eat spiritually?

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What is meant by the phrase “Crave Pure Spiritual Milk” in 1 Peter 2:2?

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### III. The Word of Light and Revelation



**This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words.**

**1 Corinthians 2:13**

It is important to distinguish between revelation, inspiration, and illumination. Revelation, which may be oral or written, may be defined as an operation of God communicating to man truth that otherwise man could not know. Since man was created in God's image and endowed with a capacity to know God, it is rational to expect that God would communicate Himself and His mind to man. If unfallen man, being a finite creature, needed divine revelation and instruction (Genesis 2:16-17; 3:8), how much more is fallen man completely incapacitated by sin.

Inspiration has to do with the communication of the truth. A supernatural influence exerted on the sacred writers by the Spirit of God, by virtue of which their writings are given Divine trustworthiness. In other words, Revelation discovers new truth, while Inspiration administers the communication of that truth.

All that is in the Bible was not directly revealed to men. There is much history and many personal observations recorded there. What we are assured of is that the record is true and inspired of God. That means that the writers were guided and influenced in such a way by the Holy Spirit that they were preserved from falling into any kind of error whether doctrinal, historical or scientific, at the time of writing. Although all Scripture is inspired, this does not put a seal of divine authority on every sentiment expressed, nor does it give divine approval on every act it narrates. Inspiration only guarantees the exactness of the narration of the incident.

#### **Direct Revelation**

Truth that has been directly revealed and imparted by God to the mind of the writer who would not have been able to learn it in any other way. For example: The Ten Commandments or the creation story. In the Old Testament, the phrase "the Word of God (the Lord) came." appears 3,808 times. This refers to direct revelation from God like what the Apostle Paul received.

**Galatians 1:11-12- I want you to know, brothers, that the gospel I preached is not something that man made up. I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ.**

#### **Revelation Knowledge**

This natural realm that we know of as contacted by our five physical senses is a product of the spiritual realm which in turn is contacted by our human spirit. As a result, the natural realm in its laws and operations is very similar in parallel to the spiritual laws that govern the spirit realm. Why else would Jesus in all His parables use so many natural, concrete examples to illustrate abstract, unseen spiritual truths- like the parable of the sower among many. I believe that this was by design and not by accident. God in His wisdom, made our natural world a reflection of the spiritual world so it would be easier for us to understand it. In other words this physical world is a visual aid to understand the spiritual world.

## **Romans 1:20**

**For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities — his eternal power and divine nature — have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.**

For example, in the natural we have this big ball of fire in our solar system call the sun. It is a power source for all natural life on this planet of ours. Without it earth would be a cold, dark dead planet. Among many things, there is one essential contribution that the sun makes for this planet- "Light"! Natural light is the key ingredient to photosynthesis in plant growth which is the foundation to our food supply on this planet. Light also illuminates this planet so we can see all that God has created and come to understand it in all its wonders, color and marvelous variety. As natural light produces life and illumination, so also the Word of God has the same affect upon us for the spiritual realm. God's Word is spiritual food (Luke 4:4): it's the bread of life for our spiritual development, it's a revealer of spiritual truth, it's a portal or door into experiencing God's Kingdom.

## **Psalms 119:130 AMP**

**The entrance and unfolding of Your words give light; their unfolding gives understanding (discernment and comprehension) to the simple.**

The Bible acts as our spiritual eyes into the unseen realm that is more real than this natural world. The Bible is the truth that reveals things as they really are! So revelation knowledge is spiritual understanding revealed to the spirit of man. This spiritual light of God's revelation knowledge is a key ingredient to our development, growth and spiritual maturity. It is the creative and life changing power of God that is at work in us who believe.

## **1 Thessalonians 2:13**

**And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe.**

## **A. The Entrance of His Word Gives Light**

### **Psalms 119:130 NKJV**

**The entrance of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple.**

In this dispensation of Grace that we live in today, the Holy Spirit has been sent forth to be our teacher, comforter, advocate, counselor and one called alongside to help! This is what is meant by "Counselor" in the Greek- parakletos. He lives inside us to make Christianity a reality and not a dead religion.

### **John 14:16-17**

**And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.**

One of the main tasks that the Holy Spirit fulfills in the life of the believer is as our teacher or mentor. The Bible calls us disciples, "Disciplined Learners" of Christ, the Holy Spirit is our Master Teacher! He takes the truth of God's Word and reveals it to our spirit on a personal basis.

**John 14:26- But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.**

### **John 16:13**

**But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.**



**However, as it is written: “No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him”- but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man’s spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. This**

**is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned. The spiritual man makes judgments about all things, but he himself is not subject to any man’s judgment: “For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ. 1 Corinthians 2:9-16**

The Apostle Paul was an avenue through which the Holy Spirit spoke through and revealed many of the wonderful truths about redemption that we enjoy in the New Testament- the Believer’s user manual for this glorious redemption in Christ.

### **Ephesians 3:2-5**

**Surely you have heard about the administration of God’s grace that was given to me for you, that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to men in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God’s holy apostles and prophets.**

Therefore, his prayer for the saints is that they would come to know, understand and act upon these redemptive principles in order to appropriate God’s amazing grace in their lives. Ignorance of these truths is costly according to Hosea 4:6. So the obvious first step before acting on revelation truth is to know revelation truth. The source is the Holy Spirit through God’s Word, and is something we must ask for according to Ephesians 1:17. I personally have been praying this prayer regularly over my life (personalizing it by putting my name into it), since I first found out about it in the late 1980’s. Since then, God has been so wonderfully pouring into my life the “Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation” concerning:

- a) The hope to which he has called me
- b) The riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints
- c) His incomparably great power for me who believes

## 1. Our Inheritance in God's Word

The Word of God is our blueprint for everything that pertains to life and godliness through His Precious Promises.

### 2 Timothy 3:14-15

**But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.**

### Acts 20:32

**“Now I commit you to God and to the Word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.”**

God has made ample provision to meet all the needs of His children. He has given us His written will and testament, the Bible which spells out our inheritance as His sons and daughters. The natural use of the word inheritance infers the death of the father, and his children inherit his estate. Jesus came to earth to bring the Kingdom of God into our lives.

### Matthew 4:17

**From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.”**

### Luke 17:20-21

**Once, having been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, “The kingdom of God does not come visibly, nor will people say, ‘Here it is,’ or ‘There it is,’ because the kingdom of God is within you.” AMP “For behold, **the kingdom of God is within you** (in your hearts) and among you (surrounding you)”**

### John 20:22

**And with that Jesus breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit.”**

## The Kingdom Of God Is Within You!

Jesus paid an eternal price for our redemption, His own blood. He gave His life to redeem us from the penalty of death- Romans 6:23. His death, burial and resurrection provided for us eternal salvation. Eternal life is more than the regeneration of the human spirit, and having our names written in the Lamb's Book of life- Praise God for it! Once ZOE (the life of God) is in our hearts, it begins to affect every arena of our existence- spirit, soul and body.

**1 Corinthians 1: 4-9- “For in him you have been enriched in every way...”**

### 1 Peter 1:18-19

**For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.**

### Colossians 1:13-14 KJV

**The Father has delivered us from the power of darkness, and has translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins.**

### John 17:1-4

After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: “Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.”

### 1 John 5:11-12

God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

#### Definition Of Inheritance: Vines Dictionary

To possess, to receive as one’s own, to obtain. In the NT the idea broadens out to include all spiritual good provided through Christ, and particularly all that is contained in the hope grounded on the promises of God.

Birthright, that into the possession of which one enters in virtue of sonship, not because of a price paid or of a task accomplished. That which is received as a gift, in contrast with that which is received as the reward of law-keeping.



When we were born again, we changed spiritual natures, destinies, kingdoms, lords, and families. God became our Father and we were adopted into His heavenly family as His very own sons and daughters. As a result, we have become rightful, legal heirs of God’s kingdom in Jesus.

### 1 John 3:1

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called the children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

### Romans 8: 15-18

For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs- heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

### Galatians 4:4-7

But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.” So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.

## Hebrews 1:1-2

In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.

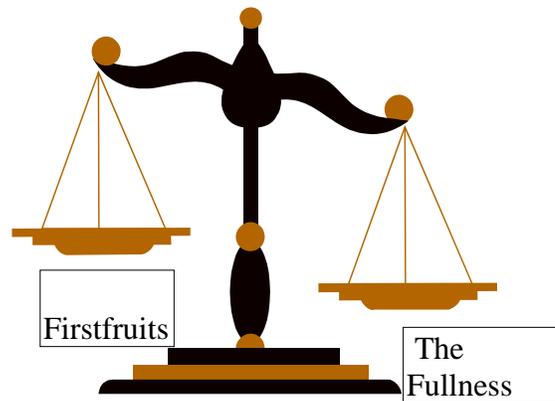
It is so incredible to realize that we are God's children and heirs with Jesus of all things! In Hebrews 2:11, it says, "*Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers. He says, 'I will declare your name to my brothers.'*" Jesus is our elder brother, Romans 8:29, "*For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.'*"

# Heirs Of God And Co-Heirs With Jesus Christ!

When Does Our Inheritance Take Affect? RIGHT NOW !!!

The moment you were born again, you became a child of God, and the redemptive work of Christ was applied and deposited into your spirit.

God has given us a deposit or portion of our inheritance to enjoy right now while we live here on the earth! The Word of God explains what belongs to us now in our inheritance and the rest that will be received in heaven.



## 2. The First Fruits for the Here and Now

God wants us to enjoy heaven on earth today, and not have to wait until we are absent from the body and present with the Lord in heaven. He wants us to enjoy His presence, love, joy, peace, righteousness, holiness, victory, healing, prosperity and fellowship with the family of God right now on the earth! Praise God, He has given us the earnest of our inheritance: a deposit, portion, firstfruits, sample, taste, and example of heaven in our lives today.

## Matthew 6:9-11

**“This is how you should pray: ‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.’”**

## 1 Corinthians 1:18-20

But as surely as God is faithful, our message to you is not “Yes” and “No.” For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by me and Silas and Timothy, was not “Yes” and “No,” but in him it has always been “Yes.” For no matter how many promises God has made, they are “Yes” in Christ. And so through him the “Amen” is spoken by us to the glory of God.

There are thousands of promises in the Bible and the above Holy Spirit inspired Scripture says that they are **“Yes”** for us today in Christ Jesus- “... *in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge*” Colossians 2:3. “*For in him we live and move and have our being*” Acts 17:28. In Jesus Christ we have all things, can do all things, and are all things in Him, “*So then, no more boasting about men! All things are yours, whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future- all are yours, and you are of Christ, and Christ is of God*” 1 Corinthians 3:21-22.

### **2 Peter 1: 1-4**

**Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ have received a faith as precious as ours: Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. His divine power has given us everything we need **for life** and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.**

### **James 1:17**

**Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.**

### **Matthew 7:11**

**“If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!”**

### **Romans 8:31-32**

**If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all- how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?**

### **1 Timothy 6:17**

**Put your hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.**

*“For Life”* in 2 Peter 1:3 refers to God’s Word as a treasure chest that holds His precious promises that gives us everything we need for life on this earth. God has made ample provision to give us the abundant life that affects every arena of existence for the believer.

### **Matthew 19:29**

**And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.**

*“For Godliness”* in 2 Peter 1:3 refers to the fact that the Lord has made provision for every spiritual need for edification, growth, and development. In Ephesians the 4th chapter we see Christ and His Body.

### **Ephesians 4:7-8**

**But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. This is why it says: “When he ascended on high, he led captives in his train and gave gifts to men.”**

*“Participate”* in 2 Peter 1:4 is talking about to participate, be partakers, and sharers in the Greek- associate, companion, fellowship and partner in. In What? *“The Divine Nature.”*

## **Ephesians 2: 6-7**

**And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.**

Do not let the redemptive work of Christ go in vain. Do not let what Jesus suffered, and the shedding of His blood for us to have, not be applied in our lives. Jesus became our redemptive substitute; He suffered the penalty of sin for us so we would not have to- Hebrews 2:9. Therefore, do not suffer with things that Jesus suffered for you in your place- 1 Peter 4:19. As the angel told Peter upon his release from prison, “Go, stand in the temple courts and tell the people the full message of this new life” in Acts 5:20, let’s enter into everything that God has so richly provided for us; do not settle for only part of the gospel- **EMBRACE ALL OF IT!**

## **2 Corinthians 6:1-2**

**As God’s fellow workers we urge you not to receive God’s grace in vain. For he says, “In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you.” I tell you, now is the time of God’s favor, now is the day of salvation.**

**2Corinthians 8:9- Jesus became materially poor to make us rich.**

**Matthew 8:17;1Peter 2:24- He bore our sicknesses and diseases to make us healed.**

**2Corinthians 5:21- He became sin so we would receive his righteousness.**

**Philippians 4:13- He became weak to make us strong.**

**Isaiah 53:5; Romans 15:3- He took our chastisement to give us peace of mind**

**1Corinthians 15:55-57-He entered into our defeat to give us his victory.**

# **Jesus Became What We Were So We Can Become What He Is!**

But some may say that Abraham’s blessing and the Old Testament promises belongs to the Jews. The Word of God plainly states differently; as believers under the New Covenant, we have all the old plus the new promises in God’s Word.

## **Hebrews 8:6**

**But the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, and it is founded on better promises.**

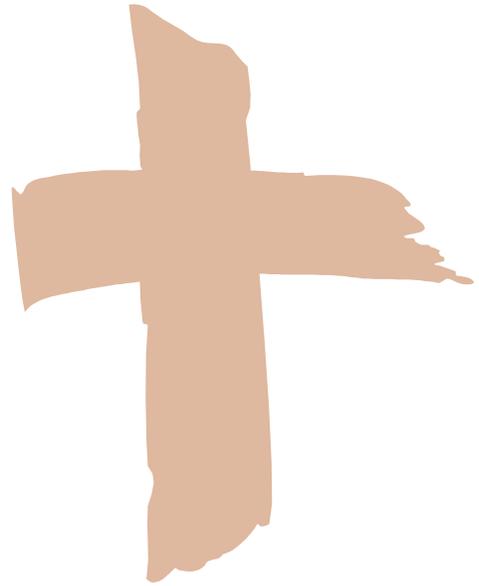
Jesus has redeemed us from the curse of not keeping the law of God perfectly in our lives- please read Deuteronomy 28:15-68 for a full account of the curse- via the work of Satan. The curse follows sin, but Jesus, “*sacrificed for our sins once for all when he offered himself*” and “*so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood*” according to Hebrews 7:27; 13:12. As stated in Acts 10:38, the curse should not oppress our lives anymore. Jesus redeemed us from sin and lived the perfect life in our place (we are his righteousness), so the blessing of Abraham and of keeping the law (Deuteronomy 28:1-14), belongs to us today.

## **2 Corinthians 1:18-20**

**But as surely as God is faithful, our message to you is not “Yes” and “No.” For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by me and Silas and Timothy, was not “Yes” and “No,” but in him it has always been “Yes.” For no matter how many promises God has made, they are “Yes” in Christ. And so through him the “Amen” is spoken by us to the glory of God.**

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree.” He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

Brothers, let me take an example from everyday life. Just as no one can set aside or add to a human covenant that has been duly established, so it is in this case. The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. The Scripture does not say “and to seeds,” meaning many people, but “and to your seed,” meaning one person, who is Christ. What I mean is this: The law, introduced 430 years later, does not set aside the covenant previously established by God and thus do away with the promise. For if the inheritance depends on the law, then it no longer depends on a promise; but God in his grace gave it to Abraham through a promise. Galatians 3: 13-18



Galatians 3:26-29

You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.

## Jesus Redeemed Me From The Curse Of The Law!

As children of the Highest, ambassadors of Christ, a kingdom of kings and priests, a chosen people, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, as more than conquerors reigning in life through Christ Jesus and led into triumphal procession of victory (1 John 3:1; 2 Corinthians 5:20; Revelation 1:6; 1 Peter 2:9; Romans 8:37; 5:17; 2 Corinthians 2:14; 1 Corinthians 15:57), let us accept our new identity in Jesus and begin walking in it by His grace. We are no longer sinners, lost without God and hope in this world, nor are we any longer under the control of the devil- Ephesians 2:1-3. “Let’s not live like beggars on barley get along street next to grumble alley.”

Galatians 4: 8-9

Formerly, when you did not know God, you were slaves to those who by nature are not gods. But now that you know God- or rather are known by God- how is it that you are turning your back to those weak and miserable principles? Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again?

**GOOD QUESTION!**

May those who delight in my vindication shout for joy and gladness; may they always say, "The Lord be exalted, who delights in the well-being of his servant." My tongue will speak of your righteousness and of your praises all day long.

Psalm 35: 27-28



God wants us to enter into rest by mixing His Word with faith, and enjoy a life that flows with milk and honey. No, it will not drop into our laps automatically like ripe cherries; there are giants in the land, battles to fight, but if we fight the good fight of faith we will win every time and eat the good of the land- (Hebrews 4:1-2, 8-11; Isaiah 1:19).

We have been talking a lot about the precious promises of God in our inheritance and our redemptive rights and privileges in Jesus; however, we need to discuss the fact that even though these things are positionally ours in Christ, to experience them fully in our lives takes faith, maturity, trial & error, and development in God's Word. No, we do not have to wait until we have been a Christian for fifty years, but don't place unrealistic expectations upon yourself to enter in fully over night- it does take some time. However, there is no more exciting way to live than to walk by faith in God's Word. The process will take us from glory to glory as our mind is renewed with God's Word. Soon we will discover promise by promise, God's inheritance for our lives for this time on earth.

### 3 John 2 AMP

**Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in every way and that your body may enjoy good health and keep well even as your soul keeps well and prospers.**

The great deposit of our inheritance was given unto us through the Holy Spirit when we were born again. The Spirit of God is our Paraclete (Greek); One called alongside to help- helper, stand by, strengthener, teacher, guide, intercessor etc. He is our down payment from God, His seal of ownership upon our lives.

### 2 Corinthians 1: 21-22

**Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.**

### Romans 8: 22-23

**We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.**

### Ephesians 1: 13-14

**And you also were included in Christ when you heard the Word of Truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession- to the praise of his glory.**

God has given us the earnest of our inheritance- a down payment or deposit, testifying of the good things to come.

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.”

Ephesians 1:3



Through Jesus Christ, the Father has qualified, made us worthy, and deserving of His inheritance through identification with Jesus- 2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 10:10; 9:12,14.

### **Colossians 1:12-14**

**Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.**

### 3. The Fullness of our Inheritance for the Here After

The fullness of our inheritance does not begin until we are absent from the body and present with the Lord.

### **Philippians 1: 21-25**

**For to me , to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith.**

### **James 2:26**

**As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.**

### **The Blessed Hope**

Let's look through Scripture and gain a glimpse what God's inheritance consists of in eternity.

### **Colossians 1:25-27**

**I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the Word of God in its fullness- the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the saints. To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you the hope of Glory.**

# Glorified Body

## **Philippians 3:20-21**

**But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.**

# Heaven

## **John 14: 1-3**

**“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms (Mansions); if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me where I am.”**

# Millennial Reign

## **Revelation 20:6**

**Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years.**

# The Endless Age

## **Revelation 21: 1-4, 7**

**Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away. He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son.”**

## **1 John 5: 4-5**

**For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.**

The Scriptures reveal that much is awaiting for us when we pass through this life into the eternal realm of God. Our new glorified bodies, heaven, and all that is in store for us in the endless age; this is our blessed hope. As Paul mentioned in Romans 8:18, *“I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.”*

### 1 Peter 1:3-5

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade- kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

## We Have An Inheritance That Can Never Perish, Spoil Or Fade!

### 4. Where is this Inheritance Revealed?

God's Holy Written Word has recorded upon it's sacred pages every detail of our inheritance on earth and gives us a glimpse of what we will receive in heaven.

### Acts 20:32

**"Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified."**

## Our Inheritance Is Found And Imparted Through God's Word!

In Hosea 4:6 it says, *"My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge."* Ignorance of God's Word can cost us our life. If not knowing Jesus as Lord and savior means eternal destruction, then not knowing what belongs to us in Christ means going without in this life. We had discussed earlier about not letting the grace of God go in vain in our lives. Let's search the Scriptures and discover our inheritance and appropriate all of it through faith in God's Word. Let's not forget God's benefits; His precious promises are like nuggets in the mine of His Word, but we have to dig them out through study and application in order to benefit from them.

Working for God means having great benefits on earth and an incredible retirement package in heaven. I love the health plan too, there is none like it on earth where it keeps us from getting sick in the first place! Bible knowledge unlocks the door to the blessings of God in our lives.

### Psalm 103: 1-5

**Praise the Lord, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits. He forgives all my sins and heals all my diseases; he redeems my life from the pit and crowns me with love and compassion. He satisfies my desires with good things, so that my youth is renewed like the eagles.**

**Lack of knowledge is like a safe that has priceless treasures in it, but no one knows the combination.**

**Lack of knowledge is like having a million dollars under the floor boards of your living room, but you don't know it's there.**

**Lack of knowledge is like being on a treasure Island without a treasure map to find the hidden bounty.**



## 5. Our Only Source of Truth

The Word of God is our only source for revelation and understanding of God and His kingdom!

### Psalm 119:130 AMP

**The entrance and unfolding of Your words gives light; it gives understanding- discernment and comprehension- to the simple.**

- Hebrew word for (**Entrance**)= Disclosure, opening, open wide, appear, break forth, draw out.
- Hebrew word for (**Light**)= Illumination, lightning, bright, clear, day light, morning sun.
- Hebrew word for (**Understanding**)= Distinguish, consider, discern, inform, instruct, have intelligence, knowledge, perceive, be prudent, skillful, regard, teach, think, view, and deal wisely.

**God's Word imparts knowledge and understanding concerning God, ourselves and the world we live in. Revelation is the unveiling of truth that enriches our lives to know the Lord and walk in His ways.**

**There is no other source of written material that has divine inspiration like the Bible. It is our source for all truth as Jesus said, "Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth." (John 17:17). The Bible does not just have truth, IT IS TRUTH- Through & Through!**



**Let The Word Turn The Lights On In Your Life!**

### **Light vs. Darkness:**

Our natural sun is an energy source that emits light which produces life on earth. The absence of light is darkness. The Bible emits God's light (Life, Nature, Power, & Understanding) that shines in our hearts and lives and produces life and growth. The absence of God's Word is spiritual darkness. That has the same affect on a person who walks in the pitch blackness of night time. He is blinded by the night and unable to see God's goodness and stumbles along aimlessly.

Light speaks of God, His Word and kingdom- everything that is good. Light is the source of all life for this world and is the origin of all color. Natural light reveals our world around us. Without it, we would stumble and fall and would be unable to see God's beautiful creation. Even though man has devised artificial light to see in the night, it is inferior to the sun, and the Son of God who gives life and light to everyone in the world. Light Speaks of knowledge, revelation of truth, character, spiritual nature and lifestyle. It also speaks of a quality of life or state of existence that is beautiful as God intended.

### **John 1:4-5**

**In him was life, and that life was the light of man. The light shines in darkness, but the darkness has not overcome it.**

### **1John 1:5**

**This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.**

### **Ephesians 5:8**

**For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light.**

### **Romans 13:12**

**The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.**

Darkness speaks of Satan, sin, the world system, and everything that is evil. It is the opposite of light. Darkness covers, deceives, and hides reality in life. It symbolizes ignorance, spiritual blindness, distortion, perversion, and confusion. Such is life for those living in the kingdom of darkness, living in hate, and envy without God and without Hope.

### **1 Thessalonians 5:4-6**

**But you brothers are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. You are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled.**

### **1 John 2:9-11**

**Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates his brother is still in darkness. Whoever loves his brother lives in the light, and there is nothing in him to make him stumble. But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness; he does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded him.**

There are many more references to light and darkness in the context of spiritual conditions and quality of life, but I think that the above will make the following point. We had just read in Psalm 119:130 that the Bible produces light. The more of God's Word in our lives, the more light shines in; as a result, more benefits and blessings that are attributed to walking in the light will be made a reality in our lives. Live as a child of the light, by walking in the light of His Word.

# The Bible Is The Light Of My Life!

Satan uses the world system to blind the minds of unbelievers with darkness. The false religions of the world with their man made philosophies and godless myths blind people from the truth according to 1 Corinthians 10:14-22; Colossians 2:6-10, 18-23; Ephesians 4:17-20. So if error is darkness, then truth is light. If error blinds and deceives, then truth reveals, and sets people free. Concerning the traditions of men Jesus says, “*You have taken away the key to knowledge*” in Luke 11:52. Sin is darkness that hardens people’s hearts from receiving the light of God’s Word- Hebrews 3:12-13.

## **2 Corinthians 4:3-4**

**And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of Christ, who is the image of God.**

Ignorance of the gospel equals darkness and a veil that covers people’s hearts, but when the light of the gospel of Jesus Christ shines forth through preaching and teaching of the Word, the veil is lifted and the darkness is gone.

## **2 Corinthians 3:13-16**

**We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to keep the Israelites from gazing at it while the radiance was fading away. But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away. Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.**

## **Luke 2:28-32**

**Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: “ Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”**

God’s light shines through His Word and drives the darkness of ignorance, confusion and hopelessness out of our lives. This light produces life (Salvation) and freedom that translates us from the authority of darkness into the kingdom of light of God’s dear Son (Colossians 1:12-14)- “*The entrance of your words gives light...*” Psalms 119:130. Knowledge of God through His Word produces LIGHT! What a wonderful treasure to have; storing up the knowledge of God in our hearts, that we may be conformed into the image of Jesus Christ- Colossians 3:10.

## **2 Corinthians 4:6-7**

**For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all surpassing power is from God and not from us.**

## **Colossians 2:2-3**

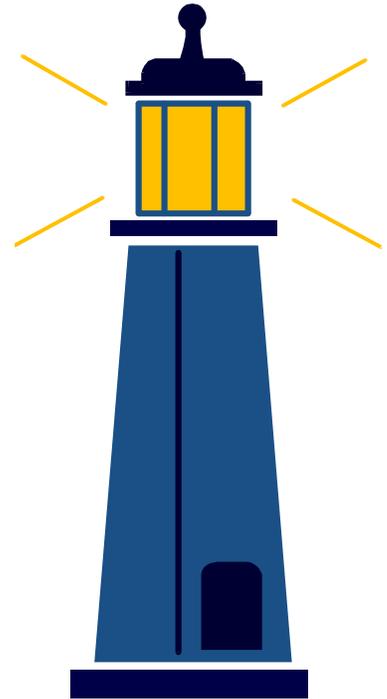
**My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.**

**“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.”  
Psalm 119:105**

**“Send forth your light and your truth, let them guide me; let them bring me to your holy mountain, to the place where you dwell.” Psalm 43:3**

**The Word of God is a light that guides our life along the path of eternal life. It is our only source and final authority for all matters that pertain to life and conduct. The Bible will always lead us into the presence of God to receive salvation and all things that pertain to life and godliness.**

**“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.” Matthew 7:13-14**



One step out of God’s Word is one step into the darkness of error and deception. Stay with the Word and do not embrace the philosophies of men and the lies of this world. The Bible is our only source to lead us to God and understand His kingdom. All we need to know about spiritual revelation is found in the Bible. When people start seeking revelations that are beyond the Word, they are in dangerous waters. Satan is known to appear as an angel of light to distort Scripture and provide counterfeit revelation to deceive people from knowing the truth- 2 Peter 2:1-3; 1 Timothy 4:1-5.

#### **1 Corinthians 4:6-7**

**Now, brothers, I have applied these things to myself and Appollos for your benefit, so that you may learn from us the meaning of the saying, “Do not go beyond what is written.” Then you will not take pride in one man over against another. For who makes you different from anyone else? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?**

#### **Galatians 1:6-9**

**I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel- which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned! As we have already said, so now I say again: if anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let him be eternally condemned!**

**See also 2Peter 3:16; Revelation 22:18-19**

**IN JESUS’ NAME STAY WITH THE  
WORD OF GOD!**

Jesus is the Word and the light of the world. His Word is truth and light. When we walk in obedience to the Word of God, we are walking in the truth and the light. According to 1 John chapter one, we have fellowship with the Father and His Son Jesus Christ. Remember that light produces the quality of life we experience on earth both naturally and spiritually. More light means more life; less light means less life and more darkness.

### **John 3:19-21**

**This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God.**

### **Ephesians 5: 13-14**

**But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes everything visible.**

### **Psalms 36: 8-9**

**They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them drink from your river of delights. For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.**

### **Psalms 27:1**

**The Lord is my light and my salvation- whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life- of whom shall I be afraid?**

## **Get Full Of God's Light By Getting Full Of God's Word!**

### 6. Revelation Knowledge

God's Word imparts revelation knowledge and insight into the things of God; but we need to search and cry out for it-hunger and thirst for more.

### **Proverbs 2:1-11**

**My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find *the knowledge of God*. For the Lord gives wisdom, and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. He holds victory in store for the upright, he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless, for he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones. Then you will understand what is right and just and fair- every good path. For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul.**

The Word of God is our treasure chest which reveals the mystery of Jesus Christ in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge- Colossians 2:3. Consider the Bible as the gold mine of God, full of precious gold and rare jewels. Through prayerful study and meditation in the Scriptures, the Holy Spirit will lead us to the treasure, and write it upon the tablets of our heart. Our lives will be enriched and we will prosper and be in health even as our soul prospers with the Word of God- 3 John 2. God has no greater joy than to see His children walking in the truth of His Word, and enjoy His good and perfect gifts- 3 John 4.

## 2 Timothy 2:15

**Study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.**

## 2 Corinthians 3:3

**You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.**

### Enlightened By God's Word:

The Word of God imparts wisdom, giving light (Spiritual illumination and understanding) to the eyes of our heart. God's Word makes wise the simple. The Bible is full of light, giving light to the eyes, revealing truth, and bringing forth understanding.

## Psalm 19: 7-8

**The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to (enlightening) the eyes.**

## Ephesians 1: 17-19

**I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Glory, that He may grant you a spirit of wisdom and revelation- of insight into mysteries and secrets- in the [deep and intimate] knowledge of Him. By having the eyes of your heart flooded with light, so that you can know and understand the hope to which he has called you and how rich is his inheritance in the saints- His set-apart ones. And [so that you can know and understand] what is the immeasurable and unlimited and surpassing greatness of his power in and for us who believe, as demonstrated in the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his [own] right hand in the heavenly places.**



### A Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation

*“God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and truth”* John 4:24. God is a spiritual being and we are spiritual beings, born again into His image and likeness. It then stands to reason that we can only understand Him by our spirit as God gives us wisdom and revelation through His Word. Hebrews 11:6 says, *“And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.”* Faith is of the heart not the head, and we contact and have communion with God through our spirit- the real us. Therefore, understanding God and His Word is only accomplished through personal revelation by the Holy Spirit. Our puny brains alone cannot comprehend the realm of faith which supersedes the sense realm. Our minds are completely dependent on our five senses to operate. It is easier for a child to receive from God, then the educated, since they don't have a mindset that interferes with receiving from Him.

I am not suggesting that we throw away our minds, it has an important function in its proper place; coordinating our body functions in the natural realm. However, the moment it intrudes into the spiritual realm, and tries to take the place of our spirit man to receive from God, it becomes a hindrance and a stumbling block. Let's learn to keep our mind in its own sphere of influence, and out of the spiritual realm. The believer who possesses the mind of Christ is one who has an intellect in submission to his spirit, that knows its place and yields its limited capacities to the spirit man. The spiritual man is one who lives by his spirit. His mind is renewed with the Word, and his body is brought into subjection as a sanctified vessel for holy service.

### **The Eyes Of Our Heart Flooded With Light**

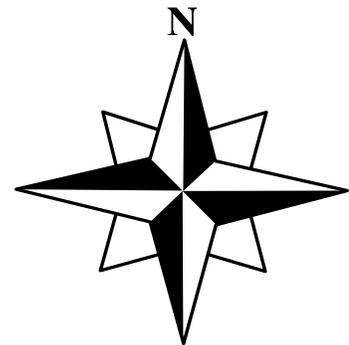
We have just discovered that God's Word is light and a lamp for our paths. If only our spirits would be flooded with God's Word, like a laser beam etching the Word of God on the tablets of our hearts. As mentioned above, our spirit man is our eyes to see into the spiritual realm where God lives. Through the eye of faith, we see God through His Word, and come to understand the principles and spiritual laws that govern His everlasting Kingdom; which operates in our hearts.

### **So That You Can Know And Understand**

The Bible is our only true source and guide to lead us into everything we have in Jesus Christ. The Word of God is our source for all spiritual knowledge and understanding. In the next page or so, we will look more in depth as to the Holy Spirit's role in unveiling the Scriptures to us.

**The Bible is our spiritual compass that leads us into our inheritance in Jesus Christ:**

- \* The hope to which He has called us!**
- \* The riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints!**
- \* His incomparably great power for us who believe!**



Unit 3 Review:

According to Acts 20:32, what is “The Word of Grace” capable of doing?

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The Bible talks about a “Deposit” of the Holy Spirit, what does that entail?

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What does it mean to be redeemed from the “Curse of the Law?”

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So where is our Glorious Inheritance revealed to us?

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What does it mean to walk in the Light?

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What is God’s primary source of revelation knowledge for us?

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## B. Faith Begins Where the Will of God is Known

Faith begins where the will of God is known and God's Word is God's will. If God says it in His Word, that settles it, it's truth and will not change, regardless of our experiences or what we see happen to others.

### 1. The Mystery Revealed

**John 17:17- "Sanctify them by the truth; your Word is truth."**

- **Preaching- Proclaims The Truth:**

**Luke 4: 18-19**

**"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Isaiah 61:1-2**

- **Teaching- Explains The Truth:**

**Mark 1: 21-22**

**They went to Capernaum and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law.**

**John 8: 31,36**

**To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."**

Both vehicles or modes of communication brings the Word to light. There is something so powerful when the Word of God is spoken from the heart. Faith comes by hearing the Word of God; without hearing the gospel, the good news concerning the redemptive work of Jesus, it is impossible to be saved. Upon hearing the Word, faith comes; believing that Word in our heart and confessing it out of our mouth brings the manifestation of the promise.

**Romans 10: 6-10**

**But the righteousness that is by faith says: "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) or "'Who will descend into the deep?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is the word of faith we are proclaiming: That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.**

**Believe In Your Heart And Confess With Your Mouth  
The Word Of God!**

**Romans 10: 13-17**

“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our message?” Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

When preaching and teaching God’s Word, we shouldn’t think that we are doing God a favor by using the wisdom of man to make the Gospel more persuasive; the opposite will occur. Just put the Word out and let the Holy Spirit reveal, convict and change people. We are called only to testify, not manipulate, condemn and force people into accepting Jesus as Lord and Savior.

**1 Corinthians 1: 17-18**

For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel- not with words of human wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

**1 Corinthians 2:1-5**

When I came to you brothers, I did not come with eloquence or superior wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling. My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit’s power, so that your faith might not rest on men’s wisdom, but on God’s power.

**1 Corinthians 4:20**

For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power.

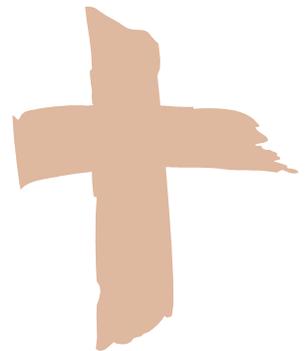
(The mystery of God’s redemptive plan for mankind is revealed through the Word of God! For more details please read: **Ephesians 2:1-12; Galatians 1:11-2:2; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11**)

(The Bible is our foundation and final authority for sound doctrine! For more details please read: **2 Timothy 3:16; Philippians 3:15; Proverbs 3:19-20; 1 Timothy 1:11; 4:13, 16; 2 Timothy 1:10,13; 2:15; Titus 1:1-3**)

**For The Kingdom Of God**

**Is Not A Matter Of Talk**

**But Of Power!**



Spiritual revelation is a matter of the heart. It is not mental ascent, when we acknowledge Bible truths as religious tradition. Many people acknowledge a historical Jesus, but do not know Him personally as Lord and Savior. When the Holy Spirit shines the Word in our heart, a change takes place in our lives that results in fruit- a changed lifestyle that is enriched and deepened.

Example: When Saul of Tarsus received a personal revelation of Jesus Christ it changed the entire course of his life and destiny.

When Peter preached the gospel to Cornelius and his household, they were born again and baptized with the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues.

When Paul preached to Lydia, a dealer of purple cloth in the city of Philippi the Bible said, *“The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul’s message.”* The gospel message revealed Jesus to her heart where she believed and was born again.

## 2. The Holy Spirit Reveals Truth

The Spirit and the Word agree. The Holy Spirit would never lead us to do anything contrary to Scripture. The Holy Spirit leads us into all truth and unveils Jesus to us.

### **1 John 2: 20, 27**

**But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth. As for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit- just as it has taught you, remain in him.**

### **John 14: 26**

**“But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.”**

### **John 15:26**

**“When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me.”**

### **John 16: 12-15**

**“I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.”**

God has kept His redemptive plan a mystery to the natural minds of men and the devil. Only God’s children are honored and privileged to receive insight and revelation into God’s eternal plan. By Satan being in the dark, he played right into God’s plan and sealed his own doom!

### **1 Corinthians 12: 6-8**

**We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. No, we speak of God’s secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.**

God's great plan of redemption, and His will for our lives is revealed by the Holy Spirit through the Scriptures. Just think, the Holy Spirit shares the deep things of God with us, and reveals His thoughts to our spirit- our mind in turn becomes enlightened.

### **1 Corinthians 2:9-11**

**However, as it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him"- but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searched all things, even the deep things of God. For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.**

Understanding what God has freely given us requires more than just the Bible. We need the Holy Spirit to lead us into the truth of God's Word, and reveal and teach us who we are in Christ. The Holy Spirit deciphers the code book of Scripture that is a mystery to the world and sheds the light of revelation knowledge in our hearts. Knowledge is the key to opportunity that ushers us onto the path of blessing. Ignorance locks us up from participating in God's provision for our lives. God has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness through the knowledge of God's Word; this is where His precious promises are found, but it's the Holy spirit who reveals them to us. Note in verse 13 in the Amplified, "*Speaking a spiritual language to those who possess the Holy Spirit.*"

\* Just a side note, when I got saved, the Bible made more sense to me, but when I got baptized with the Holy Spirit, I received a capacity and grace to understand the Scriptures like I never did before.

### **1 Corinthians 2:12-13**

**We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words.**

Without the aid of the Holy Spirit, it is impossible to understand God and His kingdom. It requires faith and an open heart to receive revelation knowledge from God's Word. The natural mind and reasoning faculties will dismiss it as foolishness since it escapes the five senses. We must maintain our first love for the Bible as open hungry children who preserve a hearty appetite for Scripture.

### **1 Corinthians 2: 14-16**

**The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned. The spiritual man makes judgments about all things, but he himself is not subject to any man's judgment: "For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.**

### **Having Ears that Hear**

The Bible often speaks of our ears as representing the pliability, openness, and receptiveness of our heart to the truth of God's Word. When people hear the Word of God, there are many different responses based on the condition of the heart- refer to the parable of the sower.

The disciples were not born again until Jesus was raised from the dead and breathed on them and said, "*Receive the Holy Spirit.*" As a result, most of what Jesus said went over their heads so to speak. They did not have the Holy Spirit to reveal the spiritual truths of Jesus' words and impart revelation knowledge and understanding. When they were born again, the Holy Spirit took them back through Jesus days on earth and revealed the truth about all He had said.

### **Luke 9: 43-45**

**And they were all amazed at the greatness of God. While everyone was marveling at all that Jesus did, he said to his disciples, “Listen carefully to what I am about to tell you: The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men.” But they did not understand what this meant. It was hidden from them, so they did not grasp it, and they were afraid to ask him about it.**

AMP says, “*Let these words sink into your ears.*” Let us have ears that hear, a heart that is open, and hungry for more of God in our lives. As we apply ourselves to God’s Word, the Holy Spirit will give us grace deposits and truth impartations.

### **Mark 4:23-24 (AMP)**

**If any man has ears to hear, let him be listening, and perceive and comprehend. And he said to them, be careful what you are hearing. The measure [of thought and study] you give [to the truth you hear] will be the measure [of virtue and knowledge] that comes back to you, and more [besides] will be given to you who hear.**

Even after 3 years of ministry experience with Jesus, the disciples were in a state of confusion after the crucifixion of Jesus. Even though He plainly told them about everything that was about to happen, they still did not believe. Then after His resurrection, He revealed himself to them and had to personally take them through the Word to convince them of what just had taken place.

### **Luke 24:25-27**

**Jesus said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.**

Beware of building doctrine and arriving to spiritual conclusions that are based on experience, and what is perceive through the five senses and reasoning faculties. We can have ten miles of trials, but not grow an inch, unless we act on God’s Word in the midst of those trials, tests and temptations. Experience can teach some good lessons, but the tuition is high (going the hard way), at the expense of suffering needlessly. God’s Word gives us the wisdom and knowledge without having to go through the painful mistakes of experience. But sometimes we get hard headed, and so down the road of hard knocks we go, but it’s not necessary when we walk in the glorious light of God’s Word.

## **When Experience And Reason Contradict Revelation, Go With The Word!**

Since their natural minds ruled their lives and they had no spiritual capacity to know what was going on, Jesus had to open their minds to be in a position to receive revelation. The new birth gives us ears to hear, a heart that has a capacity to receive spiritual revelation from the Holy Spirit.

### **Luke 24: 44-49**

**Jesus said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.” Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, “This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”**

**Only The Holy Spirit can unlock the Holy Scriptures to us. He has the combination to our heart in order to deposit all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge of God and His Kingdom. Remember, the key to receiving revelation from God's Word is through a child like faith and hunger. The Holy Spirit will be more than glad to feed us the bread of life.**



### 3. Powerful Prayers for Spiritual Growth and Revelation

The epistle prayers that the Holy Spirit inspired the Apostle Paul to write are for the Church today, to incorporate in their prayer lives. I really encourage you to release your faith and expect God to do everything you pray for according to Scripture. We cannot get more Biblical in our praying than praying God's Word. Do not let the Word depart out of your mouth but pray and confess it every day!

*Father, I ask you in the name of Jesus, that you would fill me with the knowledge of your will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that I might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God. Strengthen me with all might, according to your glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness. I give thanks unto you Father, for you have made me able to be a partaker of the inheritance of the saints in light: For you have delivered me from the power, authority and the dominion of darkness, and have translated me into the Kingdom of your dear Son: In whom I have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins.*

**Colossians 1:9-14**

*Dear Holy Father, I ask you in Jesus name, that your love which has been shed abroad in my spirit by the Holy Spirit, would abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; that I may approve things that are excellent and that I may be sincere and without offence until the day of Christ; being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Christ Jesus, unto the glory and praise of God.*

**Philippians 1:9-11**

*Father, I ask you in the name of Jesus that you would give unto me, the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of you and your Word. That the eyes of my understanding would be enlightened; that I may know what is the hope of your calling, and what is the riches of the glory of your inheritance in the saints, and the exceeding greatness of your power to me who believes, according to the working of your mighty power, which you wrought in Christ, when you raised him from the dead, and set him at your own right hand in the heavenly places. You set him far above all principality, and power, and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come.*

**Ephesians 1:17-21**

*For this cause, I bow my knees unto the Father of my Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named. Father in Jesus name I ask you according to the riches of your glory, that you would strengthen me with might by your Spirit in my inner man; that Christ may dwell in my heart by faith; that I being rooted and grounded in love, would be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passes knowledge, that I would be filled with all the fullness of God. Now unto you Father who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that I can ask or think, according to the power that works in me, unto you be glory in the Church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.*

**Ephesians 3:14-21**

Prayer is successful only when it is based on the promises of God's Word! Faith begins where the will of God is known and God's Word is God's Will. Our prayers are powerful when we pray God's Word.

### **1 John 5:14-15**

**This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us — whatever we ask — we know that we have what we asked of him.**

Meditate on God's Word over and over again until the Scriptures dawn on your spirit and the light of understanding comes. Revelation may not come the first time you read the Bible. There are varying degrees and depths of spiritual revelation and application. Make a decision to make daily Bible reading a lifestyle, and you will grow up spiritually, and find your life enriched day by day, from glory to glory. Read, study and meditate on God's Word- 3 styles with 3 results:

**i) Casual Reading** = Gives you a big picture or broad vision or scope.

**ii) In Depth Study** = A detailed analysis with study helps that extract hidden nuggets of truth that are not plain to the casual reader.

**iii) Meditation** = Prayerful, thought provoking, saturating in and savoring of God's Word that feeds your spirit and brings an unfolding of revelation truth and communion with God.

## **Grace Deposits and Truth Impartations!**

### 4. God's Word is God's Will

If you are wondering what God's will is for your life, look no further, the Bible is God's will and testament.

**Ephesians 5:17- Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.**

The above Scripture goes without saying, but what is God's will for my life? How and where can I find it out? This age old question has been asked more times than we can count, but the answer is right at our finger tips. The Bible contains God's will and plan of redemption for our lives on earth, and for all eternity. What about specific direction like, "Is it God's will for me to buy this car or take this job or go into the ministry?" The answer to this is Romans 8:14, "*because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.*" Learning how to be led by the Holy Spirit in the decision process for the specifics in life is another subject, but an important one to find out! For our purposes here, we will discover that for most questions in life concerning God's will for man, it is expressly covered and discussed throughout the pages of the Bible.

## **The Bible Reveals God's Will For Mankind!**

**Definition (Will) Greek- Desire, Decision or a course of action; strategy, design or plan.**

For every decision that is made, there is someone's will behind it. There are many voices in the world, but which ones do we follow? The voice of the Good Shepherd! His voice is heard when we read the Bible. When we follow the Word, we are following the Good Shepherd, and He leads us into green pastures and beside quiet waters.

#### **John 10:2-5**

**“The man who enters by the gate is the Shepherd of his sheep. The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice.”**

## **God's Voice Is Found In God's Word!**

God has given man a free will to choose his eternal destiny, and his lot in life on earth.

#### **Deuteronomy 30:19**

**“This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live...”**

### *Our Decisions Determine Our Destiny!*

#### 5. Good God versus Bad devil

If we can learn to distinguish who does what, and where things come from, then we can accept what comes from God, and resist the rest. So many Christians are confused in this matter and find themselves receiving evil from Satan, thinking it's from God; as a result; they don't stand against it in Jesus' Name, and they get ripped off and become a victim. Worse yet, God gets blamed for things He never authored or sent. Natural occurrences that are labeled as so-called “Acts of God” are nothing less than acts of a fallen creation that is often initiated by the prince of the power of the air- the devil himself.

It's sad to think of all the things God was blamed for in the Old Testament; whether it was good or bad, everything was contributed to the Lord as being the responsible party. The Old Testament has a very limited description of the devil, demons and their operations in the world. That is why God was given the bad rap all the time. The oppression that the children of Israel experienced was mostly self inflicted; they brought it upon themselves because of their disobedience which God permitted or allowed.

In either case, it's the devil who is the agent who delivers the evil and God permits it because of their sin. However, when the children of Israel repented, God delivered them from the hand of the enemy. It's the same today. Israel is an example for the Church in the New Covenant- 1 Corinthians 10: 1-13. The same devil is out to deceive, kill, steal, and destroy and the Lord is out to give life and that more abundantly.

Any voice that contradicts the Scriptures is not the voice of God, but of the stranger, the thief that comes to kill, steal, and destroy. In the garden of Eden we heard two voices, the voice of God which leads to life, and the voice of Satan that led to death. God's Word exposes the lies of the devil, and gives us a standard by which we can judge right from wrong; what comes from God and what comes from the devil.

### **John 10:10**

**The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.**

Scripture teaches me that God is not the author of sickness and disease. He does not personally put us through tests, trials and temptations in order to teach us. Satan is the one who will come and attempt to kill, steal, and destroy our lives. With our co-operation, God works the good out of what the devil intended for evil.

The Bible is progressive revelation. The Old Testament dealt with types and shadows that pointed to the future Messiah. In the New Testament we can look back and see the life and ministry of the Messiah. We now live in the Epistles, the letters written to the Churches. When we take Scripture that applies to people who were not born again, under the Levitical priesthood and apply it to the Church that is under a new dispensation with a new Covenant, we will find ourselves in error with erroneous conclusions. We have much more light and explanation of God, His will, and the operation of the devil in the New Testament.

In the Old Testament, Scripture was translated in the causative sense when in most cases it should have been translated in the permissive sense. God permitted many evil things to happen because people opened the door to the devil through their disobedience, ignorance or a lack of faith. In comparison, there are very few examples of divine judgments when God himself was responsible. In most cases people were just reaping the curse of the law.

Dr. Robert Young, was a Hebrew and Greek Scholar (Old Testament was written in Hebrew, New Testament was written in Greek), and the author of *Hints and Helps to Bible Interpretation*. He says in this book, that in Exodus 15:26, the literal Hebrew reads “... *I will permit to be put upon thee none of these diseases which I permitted to be brought upon the Egyptians, for I am the Lord that heals you.*” The original Hebrew of these scriptures was in the permissive tense, but because the English language has no corresponding permissive tense, the verbs were translated in the causative tense. The KEY to understanding these different passages of Scripture lies in knowing that the active verbs in Hebrew have been translated in the causative tense when they should have been translated in the permissive tense. So, Deuteronomy 28:27 should have been translated something like, “*The Lord will **allow/permit** these plagues to be brought upon you...*”

So please keep in mind that Old Testament Scripture language frequently attributes directly to God what He merely permits. Many other verbs were translated in the causative sense in the KJV. For example, Isaiah 45:7, “Does God create evil?” Well the answer would be no. That would make God a devil. God may permit evil, but He does not create it. If God commits or creates evil, then He has no right whatsoever to judge man for sinning. In taking the whole counsel of God’s Word into consideration when interpreting these Scriptures, God is not responsible for evil, He only permits evil. There is a vast difference between commission and permission.

### **Matthew 7: 9-11**

**“Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!”**

### **James 1:17**

**Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.**

### **James 1:13-14**

**When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each one is tempted when by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed.**

### **1 Thessalonians 3: 1-5**

**So when we could stand it no longer, we thought it best to be left by ourselves in Athens. We sent Timothy, who is our brother and God’s fellow worker in spreading the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you in your faith, so that no one would be unsettled by these trials. You know quite well that we were destined for them. In fact, when we were with you, we kept telling you that we would be persecuted. And it turned out that way, as you well know. For this reason, when I could stand it no longer, I sent to find out about your faith. I was afraid that in some way the tempter might have tempted you and our efforts might have been useless.**

## **The Devil is the Author Of Tests, Trials & Temptations.**

In the New Testament, you will never find Paul equating sickness, disease and oppression of any kind as a work of grace to perfect the Saints. He suffered according to the will of God; persecution for being a Christian. It’s not God’s will to endure the curse of the law (the work of the devil) which Christ redeemed us from- 1 Peter 4:12-19. Paul did not go looking for trouble, but when it came, God’s grace was sufficient for him to overcome as more than a conqueror. The same promises for deliverance hold true for us today if we appropriate them through faith.

### **Acts 10:38**

**How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power (Oppressed) of the devil, because God was with him.**

### **1 John 3:8**

**The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil’s work.**

I believe that our greatest enemy is not the devil, but our flesh and a unrenewed mind. That is the only thing the devil has to work with to entice us into sin. Our spirit man is born again with the life, nature, and love of God- please read Galatians 5:13-26 for more information.

God is not the one responsible for the evil that comes against your life. When the devil comes knocking at the door of your life to give you a package of death, just say, “devil, you are not my Lord anymore, Jesus is, so take your goods and get out of here in Jesus’ Name!”

### **Luke 10:18-19**

**Jesus replied, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.”**

**James 4:7- Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you!**

Why is there so much evil and bad things in the world, and why does God just permit it to go on and on? In Genesis, God gave dominion over the earth to Adam for a time. When Adam obeyed Satan instead of God, Adam exercised his free choice and made the devil his lord and transferred his dominion to the devil.

So Satan became the god of this world, and is doing what he does best, killing, stealing and destroying humanity. Is it God's will? No! It was man's will being exercised that got us into this trouble. When Adam's lease runs out, Jesus will return and take possession of the earth on behalf of mankind as King of kings and Lord of lords.

#### **Luke 4: 5-8**

**The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor, for it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. So if you worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'"**

#### **1John 5: 18-19**

**We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the one who was born of God keeps him safe, and the evil one does not touch him. We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.**

#### **Revelations 12:9**

**The great dragon was hurled down- that ancient serpent called the devil or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.**

#### **Ephesians 2: 1-2**

**As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.**

#### **2 Thessalonians 2:7- For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work.**

But God sent the Word who became a man, and as a man, He lived in perfect obedience to God in spite of Satan's temptations, and the weaknesses of the flesh. Through His death, burial, and resurrection, He took the keys of Death and Hell, triumphed over the devil, and made a show of him openly. Before Jesus returned to heaven to sit at the right hand of the Father, He delegated that authority, victory, and dominion over the devil to the Church (Believers) through His Name which is above every name.

The devil may be lord over the sinner, and god of this world system, but he is not lord over me and has no right to oppress my life with his curses; that does not mean he won't try. If he can get away with it because of our ignorance, even though he has no right to, you can be sure he will. So resist him in Jesus' Name and he will flee from you as in terror. Jesus broke Satan's dominion over your life!

#### **Genesis 3:15**

**"And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head (Break his dominion and rule), and you will strike his heel (But not without a price)."**

#### **Colossians 2:15**

**And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.**

#### **Revelation 1:17**

**"Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys (Authority) of death and Hades."**

### **Matthew 28:18-20**

Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go (with this authority in my name) and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age.”

### **Mark 16: 15-18**

“Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well.”

Now that the record is straight through God’s Word, we have our spiritual bearings right in order to properly interpret life’s issues, and deal with them accordingly. God only does good things, and the devil only does bad.

## **God’s Word Sets The Record Straight!**

### 6. Praying According to God’s Will

Prayers that avail much are Bible based in nature.

#### **Matthew 6: 9-11**

“This is how you should pray: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.””

Through the Lord’s prayer, Jesus taught us that our prayers should be based on God’s will being done on earth as it is in heaven. What is God’s will in heaven? That is what we should be praying for in our lives here on the earth. If our behavior on earth should be the same as though we were in heaven, then our quality of life should be the same on earth as it is in heaven also.

Some may say, “But we live in a imperfect world, and in a body that still has the Adamic sinful nature in it.” True on both counts. Jesus said to be perfect as our heavenly Father is perfect, and to walk as He walked, and He has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness plus all the precious promises and the earnest of our inheritance.

Who are we to give excuses, when He has already paved the way through His redemptive work. Certainly we won’t arrive there over night but we can, “*aim for perfection*” (2 Corinthians 13:11) and, “*Press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me*” Philippians 3:12. It’s better to aim for perfection and get most of it, than to aim for nothing and get all of it- we all have to start somewhere. The road that leads to heaven begins at the new birth and rises from glory to glory.

#### **1 John 2:5-6**

**This is how we know we are in him: Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.**

Since God's divine will for our lives is found in God's Word, we have the assurance that we are praying His will by praying according to His Word. We can expect results when we activate God's promises in His Word through faith.

**“This is the assurance we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us- whatever we ask- we know that we have what we asked of him.”**

1 John 5:14-15



## Faith Begins, Where The Will Of God Is Known!

God's will never changes nor is it ever updated with the latest trends in society. God's will can never be improved upon or perfected in any way- *“Your word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your statutes are forever right”* Psalm 119: 89,144.

**Hebrews 13:8**

**Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.**

**1 Samuel 15:29**

**“He who is the Glory of Israel does not lie or change his mind; for he is not a man, that he should change his mind.”**

Jesus made it clear, following God's will for our lives is accomplished by living according to His Word.

**John 7: 16-17**

**“My teaching is not my own. It comes from him who sent me. If anyone chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own.”**

- Examples Of God's Will For Us In The Bible:

**Matthew 8:1-3, 16-17; Acts 10:38-** It's God's will to heal His children from sickness and disease.

**Philippians 4:19-** It's God's will to meet all our financial and material needs.

**Luke 10:19; Ephesians 3:10-** It's God's will for us to exercise spiritual dominion over the devil.

**1Thessalonians 4:3-** It's God's for us to live a holy life free from sexual immorality.

**1Peter 2:15-** It's God's will for us to do good and walk in love.

**1Peter 4:19-** It's God's will that if we suffer, it should only be persecution for being a Christian.

**1John 2:17-** It's God's will that we don't love the world system, but do his will & live forever.

**John 16:28-29; Matthew 7:21-24-** It's God's will that we believe in Jesus and receive salvation.

**Matthew 18:14; 1Timothy 2:4-** It's not God's will for any person to die in their sins and go to hell.

Whether we like it, hate it, wish it were different, or just don't know how we feel about it, God's Word is God's will. There are many, many more statements concerning God's will that are plainly stated in His Word. Remember, the statements above is not man's philosophy, theory, or wishful thinking; it's God's will expressed through Holy Scriptures. We don't need to pray to God, ask a friend, or watch TV to find out God's will for something that is already addressed in the Bible, because God's Word is God's will.

## **2 Peter 1:20-21**

**Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.**

# **God's Word Is God's Will!**

## 7. Renewing our Minds with God's Word

In order to understand God's will for our lives, we must renew our minds with His Word.

### **Romans 12: 2**

**Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is- his good, pleasing and perfect will.**

Our minds are like computers that are programmed with life's experiences and input from the environment around us. Our minds act as sponges, and if we are not careful we will accumulate data that is false in nature, thus adding wrong information to the database of our memory. Our responses and decisions to life's situations is based on the information previously stored in our mind. In Proverbs 23:7 (KJV) it says, "*As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he.*" Therefore, the content stored in our mind will determine the quality of life and lifestyle we will experience. Let's think on good things, by thinking on God's Word- Philippians 4:8-9

### **"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world..."**

When a person gets born again, their spirit experiences a complete change over from the old to the new (2 Corinthians 5:17), but the mind and body goes untouched. Notice, that in the passage below, change in behavior resulting from the new nature on the inside, "*and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness,*" is not appropriated in one's life until you're, "*made new in the attitude of your minds.*" A mind left corrupted with the polluted thinking and ideology of this world will go on producing an ungodly, and fruitless lifestyle.

### **Ephesians 4: 17, 22-24**

**So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self; created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.**

### **“But be transformed by the renewing of your mind”**

“Transformed” in the Greek means- Metamorphose, change, transfigure, transform- Matthew 17:2. When we re-program our mind with new information (The Bible) about the facts of life, we will experience a progressive change, transformation, metamorphosis, and alteration of lifestyle that can bring a 180 degree turn in our lives. Remember, even with a re-created spirit, if our minds are not renewed with the Word of God, we will have the desire to do right, but find ourselves still following the old lifestyle.

Renewing our mind with God’s Word is a key ingredient to progressive sanctification. Day by day as God’s children, we grow up and reflect His image in our lives Ephesians 5:1. Our physical body will not be redeemed until Jesus returns; however, with a re-created spirit and a mind renewed with God’s Word, we can make the physical body our slave to serve God’s purposes as a holy sanctified instrument- 1 Peter 2:11; Romans 13:12-11; Romans Chapter 6. Let’s wash our lives with pure water- Ephesians 5:26; Hebrews10:22.

### **Colossians 3: 9-10**

**Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. You used to walk in these ways, the life you once lived. But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.**

### **“Test and approve what God’s will is”**

When our mind becomes renewed with God’s Word, we will be in a position to know what God’s will is for our life because God’s Word is God’s will. God has only one will for every subject in the Bible- as it is simply written. The key to sanctification is renewing our minds with the Word of God. Psalm 40:8, “*I desire to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.*” Jesus is our example of a life submitted to God’s will, since He lived according to prophecy, as outlined in the Holy Scriptures. Because God said it in His Word, our response should always be, “I Will”; because acting on God’s Word is living according to God’s Will- Mark 3:31-35. so let’s Put the Word first place in our life!

### **Psalms 119: 9,11**

**How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.**

### **Matthew 26:39**

**Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”**

### **Luke 1: 38, 41, 45**

**“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May it be to me as you have said.” Then the angel left her. When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. “Blessed is she who believed that what the Lord has said to her will be accomplished!”**

### **Luke 5:5 (KJV)**

**And Simeon answering said unto Jesus, “Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.”**

Unit 4 Review:

Why is the preaching and teaching of God’s Word so important?

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What is meant by the phrase, “The Holy Spirit and Word of God Agree?”

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What does it mean to “Have Ears to Hear” according to the Bible?

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List some of the benefits of praying the Scriptures?

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How can we know what God’s will is?

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Why is it so important to differentiate between the activities of God and the devil?

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