

# THE IMPORTANCE OF GOD'S WORD

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On Sunday, May 7, 2000, Pastor Johnathan spoke a strong word in the morning service. He stressed the importance of reading the **WORD**, God's **WORD**. It was good to hear him stress that Kenneth Copeland and others have stressed this for years. After the service was over I kept thinking about the reading of God's **WORD**. Let me share some of the thoughts with you.

John 1:1 says "In the beginning was the **WORD** and the **WORD** was with God, and the **WORD** was God." We know that God is the same yesterday, today and forever. So in that case, if "the **WORD** was God", the "**WORD** is God". If the **WORD** actually is God, we need to meditate on it, and pay more attention to His "**WORD**".

So we need to:

Read the Word

Meditate on the Word

Speak the Word

Obey the Word

Love the Word

Live the Word

Share the Word

Memorize the Word

Believe the Word

Let the Word come alive in us.

## Read the Word

This gives us a picture of what is being said and who is involved. It could be a story, a parable, a warning, a teaching, etc. By reading the **WORD** we begin to become familiar with what God is saying. Read with a purpose such as looking for an answer. What does God say about discipline, marriage, anger, sex and so many other life issues.

## Meditate on the Word

To have a better understanding of God's Word we should spend time thinking about what we read. Is there a historical significance? Is God trying to show me something? Do I need to do what I just read? How does this passage apply to me or someone I know? Could I use what I'm reading to help someone? Perhaps I should do more research on this topic, etc. Can this Word help me in my daily struggles.

## Speak the Word

When we read the word aloud a couple of things happen.

Our hearing ability comes into play when we speak the word audibly. Our inner ear picks up the sounds and sends them to our heart or spirit. It is our spirit that understands and retains God's Word when it is spoken out loud. Our soul or mind does not need to comprehend the Word you or someone else spoke out, but our spirit will hear and understand. That is why we need to read "The Word, God Speaking", daily.

If you have a problem with health, finances, or some other difficulty, speak God's Word to that problem till you get the desire result. Speak healing scriptures to that disease. Speak God's Word to lack, hurt, pain, etc. and believe for His Word to do what it says. You must

speaking His Word in faith. But always remember God looks on the heart, not only your words spoken. He is interested in your motive. So speak God's Word to change your situation. Mark 11:23, 24 says; "Truly, I tell you, whoever says to this mountain, Be lifted up and thrown into the sea! and does not doubt in his heart, but believes what he says will take place, it will be done for him.

For this reason I am telling you, whatever you ask for in prayer believe – trust and be confident – that it is granted to you, and you will get it". (AMP)

### **Obey the Word**

Zondervan's New International Encyclopedia of Bible words says the Old Testament word for obey is Sama – to hear. The biblical concept stresses effective hearing: one who truly hears will comprehend and respond with obedience. The O.T. portrays obedience as the appropriate response of God's covenant people to His revelation. In this sense obedience is an outward expression of a heart that is turned to God.

Obedience is associated with blessing. God's call to obedience is a call to holiness and an invitation to blessing.

"Hear, O Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey". Deut. 6:3 (NIV)

"The Lord is my shepherd, (to feed, guide and shield me); I shall not lack". Psalm 23. (AMP)

The New Testament for obey is in Greek:

**peitho** - to convince, to persuade. A person persuaded to obey a demand obeys it.

**peitharcho** – obeying a superior.

**hypakoÇ** – to obey – understanding and responding

(2 Cor. 2:9) "For this is my purpose in writing you, to test your attitude and see if you would stand the test, whether you are **obedient** and altogether agreeable to following my orders in everything." (AMP)

(2 Thess. 1:8) To deal out retribution – chastisement and vengeance – upon those who do not know or perceive or become acquainted with God, and upon those who ignore and refuse to **obey** the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. (AMP)

### **Love the Word**

A genuine love for God's Word keeps us in it and the more we get rooting around in it, the more we get blessed. If we put God's **Word** to the test, we find God does what the Word says He will do because He watches over His **Word** to perform it. (Ez. 12:25. Jer. 1:12)

(Rom. 4:26) "Fully satisfied and assured that God was able and mighty to keep His **Word** and to do what He had promised". (AMP)

When we actually become aware that our Heavenly Father, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords is actually speaking to us in the written **Word**, it behooves us to pay close attention to it, to read it, speak it, obey it, meditate on it and then fall in love with our Father God with the help of His written **Word**.

When we understand that God loved us first and loved us so much that He sent His only son, Jesus, to suffer greatly and die for us, we have a glimpse of a love for greater than anything. As we allow Him to pour out this awesome, indescribable love on us we are then able to genuinely love others with God's love. This gives us a greater and greater love for His **Word** for Him and for our fellow man.

### **Live the Word**

The Bible is full of directions and instructions about how to live. Proverbs tells us to get wisdom, get understanding, how to discipline our children, how to control our tongue, the folly of pride and arrogance, the importance of knowledge, and much more. Psalm 91 is a master piece telling of how God looks after and protects His family. The book of James gives straight talk of how we as Christians should behave.

Every book in the Word (Bible) has something for us depending on our need or what we want.

Only by reading God's **Word** on a regular basis will we be able to know and live as He has called us to live. And God requires obedience to His directives and commandments. It must become a way of life.

By His **Word** the sick were made whole (Mat. 8:8) and demons were driven out (Mt. 8:16).

### **Memorize the Word**

"As for God, His way is perfect; the **Word** of the Lord is flawless". Ps. 18:30 (NIV)