

"The Power of God’s Word"

Zoe Christian Fellowship of Whittier
Bishop Edward A. Smith

INTRODUCTION TO LESSON

Life Group Lesson Objective: To reinforce and establish individual faith in believing in the Power of God’s Word.

Life Group Leader preparation:

THE POWER OF GODS WORD

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

Romans 12:2 NKJV

God’s word is influential and potent, the ability to transform and to change hearts and minds; the ability to understand and agree with God’s perfect will in everything pertaining to life.

- 2Pet 1:3 – as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who has called us by glory and virtue.
 - Proverbs 1:1-7:
 - Proverbs 4:10-13

Proverbs 4:10-13(NASB)

Hear, my son, and accept my sayings. And the years of your life will be many. I have directed you in the way of wisdom; I have led you in upright paths. When you walk, your steps will not be impeded; And if you run, you will not stumble. Take hold of instruction; do not let go. Guard her for she is your life.

Col 2:5 – For though I am absent in the flesh, yet I am with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ. KJV

WEEK #1: The Power is in the Hearing

Discussion Question: What happens when YOU hear God’s word?

“For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.” Hebrews 4:12

Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God....

When you’re not hearing, reading, studying, meditating God’s Word on a consistent basis, you will not have a successful life. (Joshua 1:8)

The parable of the Sower: Mark 4:1-20

- Mark 4:14-20 Jesus describes four types of **Listeners** when they hear the word.
- 1. Seed (THE WORD) fell by the wayside – Satan comes immediately and steals the Word that was sown in their hearts - Wayside hearers
 - Guard your heart, keep on the whole armor of God
- 2. Seed (THE WORD) fell on Stony Ground – Receive with gladness and (in addition to) they have no root in themselves and only endure for a while. WHEN tribulation or persecution arises for the WORD’s sake, immediately they stumble.
 - 1 Peter 1:6-8 (AMP) In this you rejoice greatly, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith, which is much more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested *and* purified by fire, may be found to result in [your] praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen Him, you love Him; and though you do not even see Him now, you believe *and* trust in Him and you greatly rejoice *and* delight with inexpressible and glorious joy
- 3. Seed (THE WORD) fell among thorns – cares of this world, deceitfulness of riches, strong desires for other things entering in choke the word and the word becomes unfruitful
- 4. Seed (THE WORD) fell on good ground – hear the word, accept and receive the word, and bear fruit.

AGREE WITH GOD: God is not a liar: His word does not return void....

Isaiah 55:11 my word does not return void, but it shall accomplish that which I please

Psalms 107:20 He sent His word....

Ps 149:6 Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand

Let’s be honest – Discussion: What kind of hearer are you and what will it take for you to become a fruitful hearer of the Word of God.

WEEK #2: The Word of God grew and multiplied (Acts 12:24)

Discussion Question:

1. Paul said, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God to salvation...to everyone who believes.... Rom 1:16
 - a. Acts 13:1-12 – Then the deputy when he saw what was done, believed, being astonished at the doctrine of the Lord.
 - b. Acts 13:44 – and the whole city almost came to hear the word of God
 - i. After Paul preached the resurrection & Christ as Savior
 - ii. The Gentiles were glad and glorified the word of the Lord and many believed to eternal life – Acts 13:48.
 - iii. And the word of the Lord was published throughout the region – Acts 13:49

Hebrews 4:12 – ...He is word is alive, active, powerful, sharper than any two-edged sword; cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires. NLT

Let’s be honest – Discussion: What are you doing to cause God’s word to spread and multiply?

WEEK #3: Effecting Yourself & Others with the Word of God by Faith

Group Discussion Questions: Faith really does move mountains like Jesus said, is it only for some? Let’s begin to identify with miracles through the power of God’s word.

Powerful is this scripture!

Have faith in God! If you have faith in God and don’t doubt, you can tell this mountain to get up and jump into the sea, and it will. Everything you ask for in prayer will be yours, if you only have faith” (Mark 11:22-24 CEV).

God did miracles and does miracles today when they believe!

Allow the power of God’s word to do miracles in your life!

Faith opens the door to miracles. When people believe ...God moves on Earth and does miracles, and it’s always because somebody believed.

But without faith it is impossible to please God..... Hebrews 11:6

The Just shall live by Faith.....Romans 1:17

For Faith is the things hope for and evidence of things not seen – Hebrews 11:1

Let’s be honest - Discussion: - Share bible stories of miracles and how you can relate them to your circumstances...dont forget God still does miracles!

Week #4 – Believe that the Power of God’s Word will renew your mind

Group Discussion Questions: Will you purpose in your heart to always be “good ground” and bring forth fruit in every area of your life?

- Don’t let the cares of this world stop you from being fruitful...
- Rom 12:1-2 – I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable (and spiritual) service. “And be ye not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind...”

Let the power of God’s word transform your mind and transform your life

Isaiah 43:19 “Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.”

DEVELOP A HEALTHY APPETITE FOR GOD’S WORD: The more you read and study the Word of God, the more it will come out of your mouth; the more you will be quick to apply the Word of God to your life circumstances. God will be glorified, you will be healed, delivered, live in peace, without fear, successful....

Phil 4:8 say think on these things.... with a renewed mind by the Word of God it becomes easy to think this way.... because of the transformation of your mind and thinking....

Let’s be honest - Discussion: Iron sharpens iron, are you surrounding yourself with people you will encourage you to be strong in your faith?