

CLASS 2 – WALKING IN THE POWER OF THE WORD

(Compiled by Marcia Gillis from public sources. May be duplicated.)

I love **Charles Haddon Spurgeon's** words on the Word and his prayer each time he opened the Word...

How are we to handle this sword of **"It is written"** (referring to Mt 4:4)? First, with deepest reverence. Let every word that God has spoken be Law and Gospel to you. Never trifle with it; never try to evade its force or to change its meaning. God speaks to you in this book as much as if again He came to the top of Sinai and lifted up His voice in thunder. I like to open the Bible and to pray,

Lord God, let the words leap out of the page into my soul, Thyself making them vivid, quick, powerful, and fresh to my heart.

Our Lord Himself felt the power of the word. It was not so much the devil who felt the power of "It is written" as Christ Himself. "No," saith He, "I will not command stones to be made bread; I trust in God Who can without bread sustain Me. I will not cast Myself down from the temple; I will not tempt the Lord My God. I will not worship Satan, for God alone is God." The manhood of Christ felt an awe of the Word of God, and so it became a power to Him. To trifle with Scripture is to deprive yourself of its aid. Reverence it, I beseech you, and look up to God with devout gratitude for having given it to you. **(From his sermon - Infallibility—Where to Find It and How to Use It)**

WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

"THIS BOOK contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners and the happiness of believers.

Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable.

Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe and practice it to be holy.

It contains light to direct you, food to support you and comfort to cheer you.

It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword and the Christian's character.

Here paradise is restored, heaven opened and the gates of hell disclosed.

Christ is its grand object, our good is its design and the glory of God its end.

It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet.

Read it slowly, frequently, and prayerfully.

It is given you in life and will be opened in the judgment and will be remembered forever.

It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest labour, and will condemn all who trifle with its sacred contents."

— Anonymous (found on the flyleaf of an old Bible)

Melvin Worthington gives us a wonderful lesson entitled "The Wonderful Word" based on 2 Timothy 3:14, 15, 16, 17...

Introduction:

The Bible is an amazing book, a living book. It provides information which can be found in no other book.

1. **The Nature of the Bible** (2Ti 3:16); Ps. 119:1, 2, 3, 4, 5ff; 1Pe 1:20, 21). The attributes which make the Bible a unique book include its author, authority, accuracy, adequacy, appeal, and agenda.
2. **The Need for the Bible** (1Pe 1:23, 24, 25; 1Pe1:23; 24; 25; Jas 1:18, John 5:24). The Bible addresses all the needs of the human being. It is essential for life, likeness, liberty, light, and labor.
3. **The Nourishment from the Bible** (see 1Pe 2:2). The Bible reveals and regulates the development God planned, the diet God provided, the disposition God prescribed, and the diadem God promised.
4. **The Neglect of the Bible** (1Cor 3:1, 2). Neglect of the Bible leads to dullness, drifting, disobedience, despising, denouncing, and departing from the Lord.

Psalm 1:1-3 (DISCUSS)

1 Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; **2** but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. **3** He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

"BLESSED"

"Blessed" (Hebrew and in Greek-Beatitudes = "fully satisfied independent of one's circumstances." It means that, between you and God, all is well. It does not mean, "untroubled are you, admired are you, prosperous financially are you" but that you are secure, profoundly content, happy in God.)

- Negative – "Does not walk in the counsel of the wicked (He takes Word counsel and his steps are ordered by the Word of God, not by the cunning and wicked devices of carnal men.).
- Negative – "... nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers" (He is in the world, yet not of the world. He develops relationships, so he can minister, but doesn't stay there/meditate there, and absorb world philosophy.) He is in the Word enough to discern truth.
- Positive – "...but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night."

"DELIGHT"

"Delight" (Hebrew = basic meaning = feel great favor towards something. The root idea is to **incline toward** something. The object of one's delight solicits favor by its own intrinsic qualities

(E.g., "O how I love Thy law! It is my meditation all the day." [Ps 119:97](#)). The subject is easily attracted to it because it is desirable.)

What you delight in is what will direct your life, so be careful what you enjoy.

RESULT

And he shall be like a tree planted. Not a wild tree, but one planted, chosen, considered as property, cultivated and secured from the last terrible uprooting (see [Matthew 15:13](#)).

By the rivers of water. Even if one river should fail, he has another. The rivers of pardon and the rivers of grace, the rivers of the promise and the rivers of communion with Christ, are never-failing sources of supply.

That brings forth his fruit in his season. Not partially-flavored. But the man who delights in God's Word, being taught by it, brings forth patience in the time of suffering, faith in the day of trial, and holy joy in the hour of prosperity. **Fruitfulness** is an essential quality of a gracious man, and that fruitfulness should be **constantly in season**.

His leaf also shall not wither. Not only will his fruit of love, joy, peace and multiplication be preserved, but his **leaf** also. He will neither lose his beauty nor his fruitfulness, and **whatsoever he doeth shall prosper**. Blessed is the man who has such a promise as this. But we must not always estimate the fulfillment of a promise by what we see now, physically. Often, the fruit of multiplication does not come immediately and, often, our way is hard. We have faith in His promise, but in the midst of our troubles, we may see the very reverse of what that promise tells us. We see His faithfulness, most clearly, when we look back. **But to the eye of faith His word is sure, and by it we perceive that our works are prospered, even when everything seems to go against us.** The most important is **not outward prosperity** but **soul prosperity**. **Our worst things are often our best things.** "As there is a curse wrapped up in the wicked man's mercies, so there is a **blessing** concealed in the righteous man's **crosses, losses, and sorrows.**" It is by the **trials** growth and fruit comes.

Meditation is to the soul (real "soul food") what digestion is to the body. It means assimilating the Word of God.

Warren Wiersbe comments that...

A tree has roots. The most important part of your life is your "root system." Don't be like the ungodly, who are like chaff ([Ps 1:4](#)). Chaff doesn't have roots. It is blown away by every wind that comes along. Your root system is important because it determines your nourishment. It also determines your stability and your strength when the storm comes and the wind starts to blow.

People can't see your root system, but God can. Praying and meditating on the Word of God will cause your roots to go down deep into His love.

God delights in blessing His children. But we must prepare ourselves for His blessings by first appropriating the resources He has given us. Delight in the Word of God and feed on it. But do more

than occasionally read the Word; meditate on it constantly. Make it your source of spiritual nourishment, and God will bless you with strength and stability.

Two of the most popular words in the Christian vocabulary are bless and blessing. God wants to bless His people. He wants them to be recipients and channels of blessing. God blesses us to make us a blessing to others, but He has given us certain conditions for receiving blessings.

First, we must be **separated** from the world (Ps 1:1-note). The world is anything that separates us from God or causes us to disobey Him. Separation is not isolation but contact without contamination. Sin is usually a gradual process. Notice the gradual decline of the sinner in Ps 1:1. He is walking (Mark 14:54), standing (John 18:18) and then sitting (Luke 22:55). Becoming worldly is progressive; it happens by degrees. We make friends with the world; we become spotted by the world; we love the world, become confirmed to it and end up condemned with it. Lot is an example of someone who became worldly. He looked toward Sodom, pitched his tent toward Sodom, lived there, lost everything and ended in sin.

Second, we must be **saturated** with the Word (Ps 1:2-note). Whatever delights us directs us. We saturate ourselves with the Word by meditating on it. Meditation is to the spirit what digestion is to the body. When we meditate on the Word, we allow the Spirit of God within us to "digest" the Word of God for us. So not only do we delight in the Word, it becomes a source of spiritual nourishment for us.

Enjoy the blessings God has for you and allow Him to make you a blessing to others.

God desires to bless us, but we must meet His conditions for receiving blessings. **By staying separate from the world and keeping saturated in the Word**, ("This is pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father, to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to **keep oneself unstained by the world.**" James 1:27) we may expect God's blessings. Resolve to meditate on the Word of God and obey it. He will make you a blessing to others.

"**Like a tree**": A tree is a blessing. It holds soil, provides shade and produces fruit. The godly are like trees, with root systems that go deep into the spiritual resources of God's grace (Ps 1:3-note). But sadly, many **professing Christians** are not like trees but are like artificial plants or cut flowers with no roots. They may be beautiful for a while, but soon they die. (Ed note: Cf Jesus' words that "those on the rocky soil are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no firm root; they believe for a while, and in time of temptation fall away. And the seed which fell among the thorns, these are the ones who have heard, and as they go on their way they are choked with worries and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to maturity." Luke 8:13,14, 15; Paul's warning about those who "profess to know God, but by their deeds they deny Him, being detestable and disobedient, and worthless for any good deed." Titus 1:16 (note), Jesus' stern warning "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven. Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'" see Mt

7:21-note; Mt 7:22-note; Mt 7:23-note)

A tree needs light, water and roots to live. We all have resources upon which we draw life. The question we need to ask ourselves is, **Where are our roots?** The person God can bless is planted by the rivers of water. We must be careful not to be like Christians who are dry and withered and depend upon their own resources. They are like tumbleweeds, blown about by any wind of doctrine.

To have the blessings of Ps 1:3, we need to meet the conditions of Ps 1:1, 2. That is, we must first be **separated** from the world and **saturated** with the Word to be **situated** by the waters. God desires to bless us, but we need to meet certain conditions to receive His blessings. **We bear fruit only when we have roots**, and we must draw upon spiritual resources to bring forth fruit in due season. To bear the fruit of the Spirit, we must allow the Spirit to work in us and through us.

In contrast to the believer, the **ungodly** are not like trees but are **like chaff**. They have **no roots**, produce **no fruit** and are **blown about**. The **ungodly reject the Word of God** and will **perish without hope** (Ps 1:6). As Christians we must not reject the ungodly but try to reach them. **God blesses us so that we might be a blessing to others**. His Spirit helps us bear fruit that can help win the lost.

Are you like a tree or like chaff?

We need God's resources to bear fruit. But where we place our roots is paramount. Only as we grow them deeply into the spiritual resources of God's grace (Ed note: His Word, cf "And now I commend you to God and to the **word of His grace**, which is able to **build you up** and to give you the **inheritance** among all those who are sanctified." Acts 20:32) will we produce fruit. Make the Bible your spiritual resource. Delight in it and feed your soul with its truth. God can use you to help win the lost. (Wiersbe, W: Prayer Praise and Promises: A Daily Walk Through the Psalms)

Class 2 – Walking in the Power of the Word - Verses

GENERAL

Hebrews 4:12 ESV

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Romans 10:17 ESV

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2 Timothy 3:16 ESV

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,

SALVATION

Romans 1:16 ESV

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

1 Peter 1:23 ESV

Since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God;

Acts 8:14 ESV

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John,

1 Corinthians 1:18 ESV

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Romans 10:9 ESV

Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

KNOWLEDGE

Genesis 9:11 ESV

I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.”

Genesis 1:3 ESV

And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.

John 1:1-15 ESV

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

John 1:14 ESV

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Psalm 19:1-14 ESV

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard. Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

Luke 4:14-21 ESV

And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all. And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed,

TRANSFORMATION

Romans 12:2 ESV

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Acts 20:32 ESV

And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

Jeremiah 15:16 ESV

Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts.

1 Thessalonians 2:13 ESV

And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.

James 1:22 ESV

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

John 15:3 ESV

Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you.

Psalm 1:2 ESV

But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

Joshua 1:8 ESV

This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

1 Corinthians 2:14 ESV

The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

Genesis 9:11 ESV

I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.”

Psalms 119:105 ESV

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Deuteronomy 8:3 ESV

And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

Acts 17:11 ESV

Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.

Acts 6:4 ESV

But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”

John 17:17 ESV

Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

Luke 8:11 ESV

Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.

Matthew 4:4 ESV

But he answered, “It is written, “‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

Psalms 19:7 ESV

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;

Colossians 3:16 ESV

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Acts 19:20 ESV

So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily.

Acts 12:24 ESV

But the word of God increased and multiplied.

John 6:63 ESV

It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.

Luke 6:45 ESV

The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

1 John 4:16 ESV

So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

Titus 1:9 ESV

He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

1 Corinthians 14:37 ESV

If anyone thinks that he is a prophet, or spiritual, he should acknowledge that the things I am writing to you are a command of the Lord.

John 5:39 ESV

You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me,

Matthew 22:29 ESV

But Jesus answered them, "You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God.

