

Are You Allowing God's Word to Impact Your Life?

Here are more powerful keys to seeing God's Word explode in your life. For the first part of this series, [click here](#).

3. Accurately understand it. If we want to have the truth of Scripture manifest powerfully in our lives, we have to understand it. We must study and rightly interpret what it is saying.

It's shocking how many verses are taught, declared and stood on completely out of context. It doesn't make us evil people if we do this (if done in ignorance), but it does make us frustrated people!

"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth" (2 Tim. 2:15).

For example, most people who I would connect with on a day-to-day basis would agree that God is the Healer and that we can experience divine health as Christians.

"Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits—who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases" (Ps. 103:2-3).

So, it's common to pray for the sick and to cry out to God for Him to heal them. And, the result, most often, is that the person remains sick. This can cause the truth of Scripture to become discouraging. In fact, the enemy can even cause people to reject the truth about healing in favor of a substitute teaching that matches what they are experiencing. How deadly this is!

If we understand Scripture we will know that nobody in the New

Covenant ever prayed for God to heal anybody! The Apostles simply did it! The command wasn't to pray to God to heal the sick, it was for us to heal the sick!

"He called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness" (Matt. 10:1).

He gave them authority! So, we are to heal the sick, according to Scripture. When we pray for God to do it, that is contrary to the biblical protocol given to us.

"Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. As you go, preach this message: 'The kingdom of heaven is near.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give" (Matt. 10:6-8).

Jesus had to correct the misunderstanding of his disciples in Acts chapter 1:

"On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: 'Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' So when they met together, they asked him, 'Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He said to them: 'It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth'" (Acts 1:4-8).

Imagine the scenario: Jesus had just been slaughtered on the cross before their very eyes. Graves then opened up as previously dead people started moving about, the sun turned to darkness, the earth quaked—and then, a few days later, the previously unrecognizable, bloodied man had miraculously defied death and was standing before them!

You can imagine their passion and excitement. They were ready for their Champion to set up his kingdom. However, they misunderstood how it would all unfold. Instead of telling them how he'd set up his Kingdom, Jesus told them to wait for the Promise—and then revealed that *they* would be establishing the kingdom on the earth, not him!

Then he disappeared as the disciples were gazing into the heavens.

Today so many Christians are doing the same thing. We are gazing into heaven waiting for Jesus to do what Jesus is not going to do! In Acts chapter 1, the disciples transitioned into being apostles—sent ones. Jesus said something important on the cross, “It is finished.” He’s done. What else do we want him to do? He has defeated death, hell and the grave! Now WE are to move out and do what he empowered and commanded us to do!

If we don’t correctly understand this truth, we will be greatly frustrated and will wonder why the Bible doesn’t seem to work powerfully in our lives. Another example of misunderstanding Scripture to our own detriment can be found in Romans 8.

How often have we attempted to encourage a fellow Christian with verse 28? Maybe they have gone through a divorce or lost their job. The go to verse for so many is actually some of the worst counsel that you could give them!

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose” (Rom. 8:28).

A correct understanding of Scripture would result in quite a different bit of counsel. Verse 28 begins with the word *and*. That should clue us off. That verse is contingent on the preceding truth. Something else must happen in order for all things to work together for good. Let’s back up and take a

look:

"In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will" (Rom. 8:26-27).

When we are weak, we are instructed to groan in the Spirit! That is the counsel we should be giving to people who are going through difficulty! It's in the place of groaning intercession where all things work together for good. Why? Because the Holy Spirit is praying through us perfectly in accordance with God's will. When that happens, our love of God intensifies (just try it!) and God's will becomes ours as we agree in prayer. We don't know what we are agreeing with, but it doesn't matter. Our trust in God and he can do as he wishes. He then makes all things work!

One more example can be found in Matthew. Have you ever called a prayer meeting and only had two or three people show up? In order to encourage the few faithful who showed up, you probably pulled out Matthew 18:19-20:

"Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them." (Matt. 18:19-20).

I've done that myself, though I've always been a bit troubled by the principle. If He's there where two or three are gathered, is he distant when I'm alone?

So, I studied it out and found something quite interesting. Those verses aren't about prayer or prayer meetings at all.

They are about church government!

"If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses'" (Matt. 18:15-16).

How interesting! Jesus is saying that he has our back when we go with two or three witnesses to deal with someone who is in sin and unrepentant! He's giving us a protocol for church government!

I could go on and on with other examples, but I believe you understand the point. If we function with great intentions but contrary to scriptural truth, we are bound to be disappointed with the results.

4. Experience revelation of it. It's one thing to believe the Bible. It's an entirely different thing to have a supernatural revelation of it. We all must live and walk and pray in the Spirit, night and day, so we can have a never-ending supply of revelation.

This is where so few believers will go. If we aren't living in the Spirit, we can't presume to fully understand or believe the Word of God.

Check this out:

Ephesians 3:14-21 "For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would give you, according to the riches of His glory, power to be strengthened by His Spirit in the inner man, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may 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 surpasses knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly beyond all that we ask or imagine,

according to the power that works in us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen"

This miraculous force isn't there to enhance what we see in the visible realm, or to give us the ability to dream a little bit more deeply ... it's there as a burning, blowing Spirit to take us on a journey into the invisible, supernatural realm.

Did you notice one of the most powerful miracles known to man revealed in verses 18 and 19?

We can comprehend and know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge! Wow!

This means that we can have a revelation of God that goes well beyond our mental, logical limits. Verse 20 goes on to say that he'll do more than we could ask or think according to the power within us.

There is an invisible, supernatural realm that we are called to live in continually. When we do, the Word of God will transform us over and over again.

"Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ." (Rom. 10:17).

The word *word* (as in, word of Christ) is translated *rhema*. Rhema is the voice of God, the message of God that is delivered in real time. It's God talking directly to us! Our faith isn't increased as we simply read the Bible. It's increased as we hear God's voice, and that happens as we live in the Spirit!

" ... and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints" (Eph. 6:17-18).

Again, the word *word* (which is the sword of the Spirit) is translated *rhema*. It's no mistake that the next part of the armor is praying at all times in the Spirit. When we live and pray in the Spirit, the rhema word of God will come to us, our faith will increase and we will advance with a powerful sword.

When the *logos* (the living, written Word) collides with the rhema as it's stirred by the Spirit of God, our live in the Word will be alive, vibrant and active!

I'll leave you with the passage I started with. Read it. Believe it. Understand it. Don't resist it. Pray for overwhelming revelation of it. Let God rock you as the Holy Spirit burns through you. I pray that you will find yourself in the Spirit on the Lord's day—and that his Word will transform your life!

"I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea." Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength. When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades. Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this" (Rev. 1:10-19).

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