

4 Powerful Keys to Seeing God's Word Explode in Your Life

All too often I run into some amazing Christian people who are standing strong and pressing in, but also experiencing frustration at the lack of impact the Word of God has in their lives.

God's Word is a burning, exploding, penetrating and living message that should cause us to collapse to the ground while trembling—yet that is rarely the experience for so many discouraged people of God.

I know it's popular today to attempt to read the Bible through in a year. Kudos to all who accomplish this!

I'd like to offer an alternate option: read a portion of a verse for a month. If we can speed through verses, chapters and books without being overwhelmed by the searing revelation, we need to slow down. Read one verse and let it rock you to the core.

For example, you could take the next month and let the first half of Revelation 1:10 provoke you: *"I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day ... (Revelation 1:10).*

What does that portion of a single verse do to you? Oh, to be in the Spirit on the Lord's day! We could spend hours crying out to God on that topic alone! Hours can turn to days as we break and repent for times we might have grieved the Holy Spirit. A holy hunger to never leave that supernatural realm would then begin to overtake us and our entire lives would shift for eternity! A fraction of a verse can, and should, do that!

Then, the next month can be devoted to the rest of the verse: *"... and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet" (Rev. 1:10).*

My spirit jumps at the mere thought of such an experience!

A zealous determination to hear the voice of the Living God will consume us as we, after the previous month's revelation, are trembling in the Spirit of the Almighty!

The Word of God, the Bible, is most certainly a living message that should take us to our knees in extreme passion! Sadly, for most, it rarely does.

4 Powerful Keys

1. Really believe it. *"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 Thess. 2:13).*

It's at work in you who believe. Or, another way to say it: we must believe what we are reading for it to work.

Before I lose you, I know, of course, that we as Christians clearly affirm a belief in the Bible. The problem is that we are kidding ourselves. True belief is rare in today's church.

Have you ever considered why so many messages on love, for example, have to be preached from the pulpit? So many don't really believe that God loves them. They aren't convinced.

There have been seasons where I have hit hard on the issues of holiness, repentance, the fear of the Lord and eternity. It never fails that someone submits a request for me to balance out the subject matter with teachings that focus mostly on God's love. Of course, it's true that the topic of love is inexhaustible, but that's not the underlying argument.

The reality they are communicating is that the discussion of God's severity threatens their weak grasp on God's love. They don't believe God loves them—even though the Bible states it clearly, continually from cover to cover!

- *"And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love... 1 John 4:16).*
- *"... But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).*
- *"For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39).*

You see, if we really believed that God loved us, we would never be phased by other difficult truths.

It would behoove us to be settled on truths that God's Word is settled on. We simply must believe the Bible!

When we believe the Bible, literally, everything changes. We will never be able to casually breeze through the pages of our Bible again!

Passages that previously bored us will ignite us! Just take a moment, grab your Bible, and open it up. Read. Believe. Let the hunger for a manifestation of what you just read electrify your spirit! Have some righteous anger over truths that have been dismissed or minimized in the past, and as a result have not manifested in your life!

- *"As for God, his way is perfect; the word of the LORD is flawless. He is a shield for all who take refuge in him" (Psalm 18:30). The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul.*
- *"The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple" (Psalm 19:7).*
- *"All your words are true; all your righteous laws are*

eternal. Rulers persecute me without cause, but my heart trembles at your word.” (Psalm 119:160-161).

God’s Word is true, no matter what our intellect or our situation may report. A sure way to lose faith and fail to experience a life that is fueled by the power of the Word is to be led by our senses.

If you want the power, the burning and the trembling to cease (or to never be found), then reject anything in Scripture that isn’t verified via science, experience or common sense.

Yes, you must read the Bible and believe it, no matter what your circumstances or experiences or knowledge may be. God’s truth trumps all else—even supposed facts, proofs or testimonies.

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the LORD. “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts”(Isaiah 55:8-9).

Throughout Scripture God defied common sense and brought man’s wisdom to nothing. We don’t have the capacity to grasp the mysteries of God in the natural, in our minds.

I dare you to read the Bible, be challenged by the impossible and refuse to doubt even for a moment. You will grow like a rocket!

“Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah’s womb was also dead. Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. This is why “it was credited to him as

righteousness”(Romans 4:18-22).

2. Don't reject it. We cannot reject the unpopular, difficult truths in Scripture. We must receive everything God's Word communicates to us.

Today we are witnessing a tragedy in the church that I call Buffet Jesus. Jesus is the Word, according to Scripture, but his words are received in part instead of in full. Unpopular truths are passed by in favor of the sugary, more satisfying messages.

It is not possible to be a Biblical Christian if we only receive the parts of the Bible that are affirming, encouraging or uplifting. We can't shut out the rebuke, discipline, judgment or severity of God because they don't match our faulty worldview. When we do so, the entire counsel of God's Word becomes compromised and tainted. Even the parts that are received are incomplete and were not meant to stand on their own.

“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. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account” (Hebrews 4:12-13).

Truth doesn't only edify us. It corrects us. It troubles us. It judges us.

“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” (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

Too many refuse to be teachable due to their own pride or their rejection of anything that contradicts their picture of a perfect God. They shut down wisdom that threatens their

utopia to their own detriment.

The Israelites rejected the way God was functioning when Moses was on the mountain (receiving the law, ironically enough) so they rejected him in favor of a man-made image. They fashioned the perfect God that fit their fleshly demands.

"When Aaron saw this, he built an altar in front of the calf and announced, "Tomorrow there will be a festival to the LORD." So the next day the people rose early and sacrificed burnt offerings and presented fellowship offerings. Afterward they sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry. Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go down, because your people, whom you brought up out of Egypt, have become corrupt. They have been quick to turn away from what I commanded them and have made themselves an idol cast in the shape of a calf. They have bowed down to it and sacrificed to it and have said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt.'"(Exodus 32:5-8).

If we fashion our own golden calf, made up of compromised, incomplete and twisted truth, we are far from enjoying the fruit of a truly Biblical life.

For the rest of the article, tune in Wednesday to .

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