

Abide in the Word

Abiding in the Word and allowing it to abide in us gives us more power in our prayer lives.

Most

Christians know the importance of reading the Bible, but many do not

understand the importance of abiding in the Word and allowing the Word

to abide in them. Jesus told His disciples, "If you live in Me [abide

vitally united to Me] and My words remain in you and continue to live in

your hearts, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you" (John

15:7, AMP).

To abide means "to remain, to continue in, or to dwell in."

When we are

diligent to study the Word and hide Scripture verses in our hearts, we

have instant access to them whenever we need them, and Jesus promised

that we can ask for whatever we need in prayer and receive it.

Abiding in the Word and allowing the Word to abide in us gives us more

power in our prayer lives. And having power in prayer gives us power

over the enemy.

Jesus also said, "If you abide in My word [hold fast to My teachings and

live in accordance with them], you are truly My disciples. And you will

know the Truth, and the Truth will set you free" (John

8:31-32).

Consider 1 John 2:14 and you will see that abiding in the Word of God produces victory over the wicked one: "I write to you, young men, because you are strong and vigorous, and the Word of God is [always] abiding in you (in your hearts), and you have been victorious over the wicked one."

I can testify that the Word of God has caused me to be victorious over the devil. I was a Christian for many years-a church-attending, tithing Christian who loved God and was active in church work. But I had zero victory because I did not know the Word.

Many believers go to church every week to listen to someone else preach the Word to them, but they never know the Word for themselves. If you want to live in victory, you must do your own study of the Word-dig out for yourself the gold that is hidden in the pages of the Bible.

I am talking about something far beyond reading a chapter a day. That is good and may be a place to start, but if you really want victory over the devil in these end times, you must give God's Word a place of priority in your life.

You abide in the Word by staying in it. Practically speaking,

this could
mean that you get up in the morning and, while taking a
shower, you
begin confessing or singing the Word. Perhaps on the way to
work you
listen to a good teaching or music CD that is filled with the
Word. The
Bible is available on CD if you want to listen to it while
doing your
work around the house. You should hear anointed preaching and
teaching
regularly. Several times a week is not too often.

You may want to use your lunch hour to read the Word or walk
outside and
pray (remember to fill your prayers with the Word). When the
workday is
over, listen to good teaching or music on the way home.

I am not suggesting that you ignore your family or become
irresponsible
in other areas. While you are at work you need to give your
employer a
full day's work for a full day's pay. No one can keep the Word
going in
his head or ears constantly.
Abiding does not mean "unceasingly." I define it as
"relentlessly"-on a
regular, continuing basis. Giving the Word a place of priority
will
change your life.

If you have been wondering why it always seems that you are
under
something-facing one problem or another-and don't have victory
in your
life, perhaps you need to spend more time abiding in the Word.

Can you honestly say that you have spent your years as a Christian abiding in God's Word ... and allowing it to abide in you? If the answer is no, I encourage you to take action. Make reading and studying the Word a priority. Start memorizing Scriptures and hiding them in your heart. Then when you face the battles of life you will be fully armed and prepared to win the war.

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