

Hearing From God Through His Word

(John 10:27) *"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:"*

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC, Sunday, Aug. 15th

Christianity isn't a "Religion", but rather a Relationship with God made possible through Christ.

God wants us to know Him! Jn 17:3,4 *"This is life eternal, that they might know thee!"*

Just as we primarily use words to communicate, God primarily speaks to us through His Word.

Ps. 119:104, 105 *"Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.*

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

Reflection/Review:

1. The Bible Claims To Be "The Word Of God!" (over 100 times)

A. God's Word Shares His Characteristics:

1) **Inspired:** 2 Tim 3:16 *"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, ("God Breathed")*

2) **Eternal:** Mal. 3:6 *"I am the Lord, I change not"* See also Ps 119:89 and Mt 24:35

3) **Powerful:** Heb. 4:12 *"The Word of God is quick (zao: alive) and powerful..." (energes: active energy)*

4) **Practical:** 2 Tim. 3:16 *"all scripture ... is profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, instruction in righteousness:*

5) **Precious!** Ps. 19:7,10, 11 *"More to be desired are they than gold...: sweeter also than honey..."*

2. Jesus Is Referred To "The Word Of God" (in the flesh) Jn 1:1,14

A. We Learn Of Him Through His Word. Jn 20:31,31; Mt. 11:29

B. We Hear from Him through His word. Jn 14:21

3. The Holy Spirit Uses The Word Of God To Work in our lives!

A. For **Conviction**. John 16:8 *"he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment"*

B. For **Salvation**. Jn. 3:5-7 *"Except a man be born ...of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."*

C. For **Sanctification**. 2 Thess. 2:13 *"God hath ...chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief (Pistis: Faith, conviction) of the truth:"* Also Eph. 5:25,26; Ps. 119:9-11

Direction:

D. For **Transformation**. Ro. 12:1,2 *"present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God..."*

And be not conformed to this world: but be transformed (metamorphoo)

1) Who does this Transforming? God's **Spirit!** (See 2 Cor 3:18)

2) How does He do this? *"by the renewing (anakai'nosis: renovating)*

of your mind, (nous: understanding) See Eph. 5:26

a) Understanding of What? *How to be rightly related to God! (1 Jn 1:6-10)*

3) Why does He do this? *"that ye may prove (dokimaz'o: approve) what is that good, (agathos': beneficial)*

and acceptable, (Euar'estos: fully agreeable/Pleasing) and perfect, (tel'ios: complete) will of God."

Thel'ema: determination, choice. (Rev. 4:11)

4) How do we do this? (Cooperate with him?) Pr. 3:5,6 *"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, lean not to thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, (yada: know, recognize, understand)*

And He shall direct thy paths." Through His **word!** Ps. 119:105 *"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet"*

E. For Service

1) The Holy Spirit uniquely equips us! Ro. 12:6-8 *"Having then gifts (charisma: endowments) differing according to the grace that is given to us..."*

(char'is: God's influence on our hearts, and it's reflection in the life.)

a) The root word of Gifts (charisma) is Grace! (charis)

b) Where does this grace come from? 1 Cor. 12:4-6 *"Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There're differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all."*

c) Why is this Grace Given? 7 *"The manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man...To profit withal"*

3. The Spirit works with The Word Of God!

E. For Spiritual **Warfare!**

1) Defensively Eph 6:16-17 *"Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench (extinguish) all the fiery darts of the wicked."*

a) This Shield of Faith is made from the proper application of God's Word. Romans 10:17 *"faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Rhema: utterance, matter, topic*

2) Offensively. Vs 17 *"and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:"*

a) This is how Jesus defeated Satan in the Wilderness? *"It is written..." Mt. 4:4,7,10*

b) We have the same resource! 1 Jn 2:14 *"I've written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one." (See also 1 Jn 4:4; 5:4)*

Conclusion: We'll Be **Judged** By God's Word Eccl 12:13-14

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. (adam) For God shall bring every work into judgment, (mishpāt': verdict) with every secret thing, (ālam': veiled) whether it be good, (tob: pleasing) or whether it be evil." (ra: displeasing)

Heb. 4:12-13 *"the word of God is quick, and powerful, ... and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do."*

Application: 2 Cor 5:9-11 *"Wherefore we labor, that, ... we may be accepted of him. (auar'estos: fully agreeable/ pleasing) For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; (bema: tribunal, platform) that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.*

5:11 *"Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men;...(OF WHAT?)*

20 *Now then we are ambassadors for Christ... we pray you in Christ's stead, be reconciled (katallaso: mutually changed) to God!"*

Since God's Word is the basis of:

- 1) Our Victory in Life Jn 10:10
- 2) Our Confidence in death (2 Cor 5)
- 3) Our Position in eternity!

What role does/should it play in your life today?