

SMALL GROUP STUDY #2 FOR “WORD” SERIES

Message #2. The Power of the Word of God.

I. The power of the Bible. What will the Bible do?

A. Saves people

1 Peter 1:22-25 *Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, ²³ since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; ²⁴ for “All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, ²⁵ but the word of the Lord remains forever.”*

B. Combats sin

Ephesians 6:17 *“Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵ and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷ and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God...”*

C. Provides Spiritual Growth

1 Peter 2:2 *Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation.*

D. Changes Your Life

1 Thes 2:13 *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 4:7 *Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*

Small group Material 2 Where does the power of the Bible come from?

2 Timothy 3:16–17 (ESV): *All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.*

The power of the Bible comes from God. He breathed it, all of it. It comes out through His mouth, originating from His heart. The Bible is a message from God to you.

Since God breathed it out to man, it must have a very important purpose to Him. I believe that the purpose of the Bible – is found in understanding the power of the Bible, which at the heart, is using the words of the Bible in our everyday life to have victory. Notice how Jesus the author of the Word used the Bible to combat the Devil. He could have out-thought the Devil easily, but Jesus didn't, He showed us how to use the Bible to have victory, its that strong! It can beat the Devil every-time, if we let it.

Luke 4:1–13 (ESV): And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. 3 The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." 4 And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone.'" 5 And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, 6 and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. 7 If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." 8 And Jesus answered him, "It is written, " 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.'" 9 And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, 10 for it is written, " 'He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,' 11 and " 'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.' " 12 And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" 13 And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

1. How many times in this passage did the Devil tempt Jesus? What was the response from Jesus? How many times did Jesus use the scripture to combat the Devil?
2. The Word of God is the only outward weapon that Jesus used against the sly tactics of the Devil, showing us that the Devil cannot refute the Word of God. Can you think of an area of your life that you would be wise to use scripture to combat the Devil?
2. Do you see how the Devil attempted to twist the Word of God? How does he do that in your life? What kind of things does he say to you? Maybe inside your small group you could use one of the 3 phrases that Jesus did to combat the enemy, which one seems most viable for you today?

