

SERMON NOTES:

Perilous Waters | *Navigating the Dangerous Currents Shaping the Church*

Part 1: Drifting Without Anchors

BIG Idea: When Scripture loses its authority, we drift from the faith once delivered toward a faith of our own making.

Application: Re-anchor your faith in Scripture as the primary shaping authority for what you believe, how you discern, and how you live.

Join us as we read the Bible together in 2026.

<https://bit.ly/ReadwithMe26>

What makes Bible reading so important?

1. Reading the Bible offers discernment, insight, and the wisdom of the ages to the believer. The scriptures will profoundly shape your worldview into a Christ-centered worldview.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NLT)

¹⁶ All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. ¹⁷ God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

2. Reading the Bible makes you mature. Mature people have great peace and are not easily offended.

Psalms 119:165 (KJV)

¹⁶⁵ Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.

3. Reading the Bible helps to equip you to face temptation.

Matthew 4:1-11 NLT

¹ Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted there by the devil. ² For forty days and forty nights he fasted and became very hungry. ³ During that time the devil came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴ But Jesus told him, "No! The Scriptures say, 'People do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" ⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city, Jerusalem, to the highest point of the Temple, ⁶ and said, "If you are the Son of God, jump off! For the Scriptures say, 'He will order his angels to protect you. And they will hold you up with their hands so you won't even hurt your foot on a stone.'" ⁷ Jesus responded, "The Scriptures also say, 'You must not test the Lord your God.'" ⁸ Next the devil took him to the peak of a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ "I will give it all to you," he said, "if you will kneel down and worship me." ¹⁰ "Get out of here, Satan," Jesus told him. "For the Scriptures say, 'You must worship the Lord your God and serve only him.'" ¹¹ Then the devil went away, and angels came and took care of Jesus.

Ephesians 6:12, 17b NLT

¹² For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. ¹⁷ ...and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

THE LIFE JOURNALING TECHNIQUE:

Jeremiah 30:2 (NLT) ² “This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: Write down for the record everything I have said to you, Jeremiah.

Ephesians 5:26 (NLT) ²⁶ to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God’s word.

S - Scripture

O - Observation

A - Application

P - Prayer