

THE TAKE AWAY

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Sunday, December 12, 2021

Message Summary:

In this week's message, Pastor John Carter taught us how to get the word of God into our hearts. The book of the Bible is the physical container for the supernatural content it contains. You have to learn how to keep the word in your mouth day and night. That means that you have to open the container of the Word and speak it out over your life. You download the Word of God into your heart so that it is in you and available to you when you need it. And the more Word you download into your heart, the more supernatural power is available to you! The power of the Word can influence your thoughts, your words, your decisions and your actions. The container is important, because the container enables the content. In the same way, Jesus the man contained the power of the God inside of Him. God became man, so that man could become one with God. The very nature of God is mirrored inside of His Word. When the Word of God lives in your heart, you experience this same oneness with God. When you open and study the container, you receive from the power of the content living inside of it. All of His power and transformational will is within His Word. You must live by the Word to be changed by the Word!

Key Scriptures:

- **[John 15:7 NKJV]** 7 "If you abide in Me, and **My words abide in you**, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.
- **[1 Peter 1:22-23 NKJV]** 22 Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, 23 having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, **through the word of God which lives and abides forever...**
- **[Hebrews 4:12 NKJV]** 12 For the **word of God is living and powerful**, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Discussion Questions:

1. What is the difference between the container and the content of the Bible?
2. Why is it important to spend regular time meditating on the content of the Word?
3. What does it mean that the Bible is "living and powerful"?
4. What can you do to ensure that the Word of God *abides* in you?

Life Application:

This week as you study the key scriptures, consider what Pastor John said, "You can't love God and have a low view of the Bible. You can't say you love Jesus but never read the Word." We come to understand who God is – His nature, His character, His expectations and His promises – in His Word. We experience His power as we spend time meditating on His Word. The more the Word is downloaded in our hearts, the more we experience the supernatural nature of the Word. This week, carve out extra time to spend with your Bible. Identify the scriptures God is talking to you about in this season. Memorize them! Write them down! This is your season to experience the supernatural power waiting for you in the Bible, if you will make room for it.

This Week's Memorization Scripture: **Psalm 1:1-3 (extra credit for verses 4-6)**