

February 10th — “Choices”

“Life is a series of choices.” Each time Jesus faced a crossroads choice while in the desert, he drew on God’s words for strength. **Jesus’ go-to choice was the Word of God.** We can also choose the Word of God as our go-to. This includes Jesus himself, who literally was the living Word of God (John 1:1, John 1:14). From where do you draw your strength? What is your go-to?

1. **PERSONAL “GET-TO-KNOW-YOU” SHARING:** Today’s lesson title was “Choices”.
 - What was an awesome choice you made in your life?
 - What was a terrible choice?
2. **BIBLE DISCUSSION: Read Hebrews 5:11 through Hebrews 6:3.**

You can have been baptized for many decades and still be spiritually immature. Improper or negligent use of the Word has 3 negative effects on people: 1) they have an inability to teach others; 2) they need “milk” and not solid food; 3) they are spiritually untrained in distinguishing good from evil. (Note the Greek word translations at the bottom.)*

 - In what ways are you are constantly using the Word of God so that you can be trained to distinguish good from evil?
 - How hungry are you to get training in the Word of God? This hunger for training in the Word needs to come from within YOU, it cannot be driven by anyone else. Intellectually knowing scriptures is not enough. Hunger + constant real use the Word in your life is the only way to be trained to distinguish good from evil and become spiritually mature.
3. **BIBLE DISCUSSION: Read 2 Tim 3:16-17.**

God’s Word was specifically designed for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness. If you do not carry this out (and in love like Jesus), you are unfortunately robbing the church of a harvest of righteousness and spiritual growth and maturity.

 - Do you truly believe all scripture is God-breathed?
 - In the last few weeks, how have you been intentionally use the Word to help teach, rebuke, correct, and train those around you in righteousness?
 - Is there anything stopping you? What can you start doing this week to grow in this area?

Greek Translation notes on Hebrews 5:14

- **constant** = ἔξιν, εως: a repeated activity—‘practice, doing again and again, doing repeatedly.’
- **trained** = γυμνάζω^a: to control oneself by thorough discipline—‘to discipline oneself, to keep oneself disciplined.’ γύμναζε δὲ σεαυτὸν πρὸς εὐσέβειαν ‘keep yourself disciplined for a godly life’ 1 Tm 4:7. In a number of languages the equivalent of ‘to discipline oneself’ is literally ‘to make oneself obey.’ This may sometimes be expressed idiomatically as ‘to command one’s heart.’

References

- Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). *Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains* (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 751). New York: United Bible Societies
- Allen, D. L. (2010). *Hebrews* (pp. 338–339).