

WK4D4

Welcome to Gods Promise, I'm Dr. Kiley and I'm here to help you apply God's promise to your life.

This week we are looking at The Promises of God's Written Word. Yesterday we looked at My Identity and how the promise relates to our position as a child of God. Today we are looking at the Impact of the promise when it is received and applied to our life.

Some people take great pride in their vocabulary, others in their powers of debate, and still others in the quickness and sharpness of their tongues. Yet no human words can compare with the Word of God- whether written or spoken. Hebrews 4:12 reveals the supernatural power of Scripture to reveal and renew the heart.

Hebrews 4:12 says, *"For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."*

Watch a group of young children at play and before long you'll hear one try to alter another's behavior by the power of words: "Last one over the fence is a rotten egg!" Or watch a group of adults at play and you'll witness the same thing: "We've got you now! You guys are toast!" While these jabs are simply offhand figures of speech, they do reveal something deeper. When we say these things, we sense that words have power-even if ours have only a little bit of power in each moment.

We can't turn people into rotten eggs or burned toast, but we can change the expressions on their faces. And we can even prompt behavioral changes. For instance, Proverbs says that reckless words can pierce and that wise words can heal (12:18); that gentle words can calm anger and harsh words provoke it.

But again, it's not airwaves and vibrating eardrums that cause these changes; rather, it is the personality of one person intersecting with the personality of another via the medium of words. That's about as close as we can come to our words having power.

But God's words are different because God is different. When He spoke, previously nonexistent things came into being (light, seas, animals, humans; see Gen. 1). And God's Son spoke to withered hands (Matt. 12:9-13) and paralyzed bodies (Matt. 8:5-8, 13) and literally changed their molecular makeup. He healed them with a word.

God's words have unbelievable power, and they don't lose power when they're committed to paper. Hebrews tells us that God's words in Scripture have the ability to penetrate the deepest part of our person and reveal what is there. God's words vibrate more than the inner ear; they vibrate our whole heart, causing us to hear His voice in the inner self.

If you want to make progress toward spiritual maturity, let the Spirit of God use the Word of God in your heart. Be prepared-not only is the Word living and active, it is also sharper than a sword! But what it cuts, it also heals.

God's Promise: His Word is the scalpel that renews and restores the human heart.