

**Following Jesus
Living and Active
Discover Church
February 12, 2023
Mark Phillips**

“Your word, Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faithfulness continues through all generations; you established the earth, and it endures. Your laws endure to this day, for all things serve you. If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction. I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have preserved my life. Save me, for I am yours; I have sought out your precepts. The wicked are waiting to destroy me, but I will ponder your statutes. To all perfection I see a limit, but your commands are boundless. Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long.” Psalm 119:89-97

GOD’S WORD IS DIFFERENT THAN ANY OTHER BOOK

“For the word of God is living and active and full of power [making it operative, energizing, and effective]. It is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating as far as the division of the soul and spirit [the completeness of a person], and of both joints and marrow [the deepest parts of our nature], exposing and judging the very thoughts and intentions of the heart.” Hebrews 4:12 (AMP)

“All Scripture is God-breathed [given by divine inspiration] and is profitable for instruction, for conviction [of sin], for correction [of error and restoration to obedience], for training in righteousness [learning to live in conformity to God’s will, both publicly and privately—behaving honorably with personal integrity and moral courage]; so that the man of God may be complete and proficient, outfitted and thoroughly equipped for every good work.” 2 Timothy 3:16-17

“The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.” Psalm 119:130

Two Things We do to Access the Wisdom & Power of God’s Word

1. Consume It!

“Then they asked him, “What must we do to do the works God requires?” Jesus answered, “The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.” So they asked him, “What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” Jesus said to them, “Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” “Sir,” they said, “always give us this bread.” Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.” John 6:28-35

Consume God's Word Like Your Life Depends On it!

2. Let It Consume You!

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples." John 15:5-8

- Saves Your **Soul!**

"Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you." James 1:21

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- Renews Your **Mind!**

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind." Romans 12:1-2

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- Sustains Your **body!**

"The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven." Hebrews 1:3

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- Strengthens Your **Mind!**

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." 2 Timothy 1:7

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- Stabilizes Your **Steps!**

"Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path." Psalm 119:105

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- Empowers Your **Life!**

"So is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it." Isaiah 55:11

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- Renews Your _____! (*Romans 12:1-2*)
- Sustains Your _____! (*Hebrews 1:3*)
- Strengthens Your _____! (*2 Timothy 1:7*)
- Stabilizes Your _____! (*Psalms 119:105*)
- Empowers Your _____! (*Isaiah 55:11*)

Scripture: *Psalms 119:89-97; Hebrews 4:12; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Psalm 119:130; John 6:28-35; John 15:5-8; James 1:21; Romans 12:1-2; Hebrews 1:3; 2 Timothy 1:7; Psalm 119:105; Isaiah 55:11*