

The Role of the Word in the Life of a Christian

The Scriptures and Change

John 17:17 "Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.

1 Peter 2:2 like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation,

Ephesians 5:26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

Isn't it okay to be a Christian and just stay the way I am?

Sanctification

Growing in respect to salvation

The joy of change

The Scriptures and Winning Against Temptation

Matthew 4:1-4 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He then became hungry. And the tempter came and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.'"

Ephesians 6:11, 17 Put on the full armor of God, that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Who is tempted? Who sometimes sins when tempted?
Is the Word of God always enough to win?

James 1.14

1 John 1.8

1 Corinthians 10.13

2 Timothy 3.16-17.

Practical help for winning your battles against temptation

Do a topical study of Bible verses dealing with your struggle

Seek accountability and help

www.valleybible.net/counseling

practical studies: Bible studies on specific life topics that help you interact with the Word and apply its truths

journals: useful format to facilitate thinking about the truth of the Word in the midst of temptation and to analyze the entire event afterward; organized by topic

Confidence in the Lord and His Word

Commitment to fight the fight against temptation as a war in your soul (1 Peter 2.11).

Commitment to using the weapon God has given you to win the war (Psalm 1.2-3, Psalm 119.9-11).

The joy of victory in Christ through His Word

The Scriptures and the Deepest Part of Your Soul

Hebrews 4:12-13 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

Can people judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart?

“Naked” and “Grabbed by the throat”

Do you desire such an intense interaction with God?

What can happen in one day of responding to God causing the Word to be living and active, showing you the thoughts and intentions of your heart

What can happen if a response to the Word of subjecting your will to God's becomes a regular occurrence.

Application

In seeking to fulfill God's command to teach and train your children

When pride is your temptation

An older woman who changed by the power of the Word

A younger woman who changed by the power of the Word

There is deep joy in becoming a living example of the role God intends the Word to have in a Christian's life