

Reading the Word

Gospel and Grace] GET THE GOSPEL
God's Story/ Your Story]

Reading the Word] GROW IN
Breathing in Jesus]

Worship and Upbuilding] GATHER AROUND
Serving and Calling]

Family] GO WITH
Going]

Breathed Out By God

2 Timothy 3:16

All scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the messenger of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Q – Why did God give the Word?

Getting to Christ – John Piper

I have a burden for my people right now, just like I do for myself, that we get beyond propositions and Bible verses to Christ. I do not mean “get around” Bible verses, but “through” Bible verses to Christ, to the person, the living person, to know Him, cherish Him, treasure Him, enjoy Him, trust Him, be at home with Him. I want to count Him more to be desired than all other things – wife, husband, children, success in career, leisure, vacations, health, food, sex, money. He’s more precious.

The central goal of the Bible is to be closer to Christ; who is our God, King, Savior, Shepherd, and friend.

Q – What other desires can decrease in your life to allow more time for enjoying Jesus?

Q – What scripture has Jesus recently encouraged you with?

The Entire Bible is True

John 1:1-2 and 14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made ... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Jesus is the Word – which means he is, always was, and always will be God. He was sent from God, as God, to rescue sinners from sin. All scripture either foreshadows salvation in Jesus, describes salvation in Jesus, or instructs what life is like upon receiving salvation in Jesus.

Luke 24:44-49

Jesus said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations.

Every Old Testament and New Testament scripture points to salvation in **Jesus**.

Isaiah 53:4-6

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned – every one – to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Inerrant – Wayne Grudem

God’s word is not just true, it is truth itself. The Bible is inerrant, which means it always tells the truth and it always tells the truth concerning everything it talks about.

Q – Why is it important for the entire Bible to point to salvation in Jesus?

Q – Why is it important for the entire Bible to be true?

Reading the Word

The Bible is Nourishing

Read Colossians 1:9-11

We have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. May you be strengthened with all power, according to his great might, for all endurance and patience with joy.

Ephesians 3:17-19

[I pray] that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith – that you being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints ... what is the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge.

John 15:4-5

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

Q – Where is our hope for nourishment (and growth) in this life?

Q – How does Jesus choose to reveal his truth and love to us?

The Bible is Active and Leads to Action

Ephesians 6:11 & 17

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil ... Take up the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Q – What two evils is the word of God fighting against and defeating?

Colossians 3:1-3

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Q – How can you seek the things where Christ is?

2 Timothy 2:1-2

You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men and women who will be able to teach others also.

We are strengthened by the grace that is in Jesus. We are then sent, by the same grace that is in Jesus, to strengthen others! We cannot be **sent** without the **strength**.

Q – Who is Jesus sending you to to strengthen?

Deuteronomy 6:5-9

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Q – How can you personally seal God's words on your heart more?

God's Very Words – Wayne Grudem

We must continually remember that we have in the Bible God's very words ... we should seek to understand them and then trust them and obey them with our whole heart.

Pray – Spend a few minutes thanking God for the Word – Jesus, who is alive in us today.