

## **UNDERSTANDING How To be Strong in The Lord Handout 4**

**To Be Strong in The Lord, we will see that Jesus placed the highest value of all on the Word of God. Looking at the world through God's Word causes us to live the blessed life as He intended.**

### **I In Matthew. 13:1, Jesus defines the value of the Word of God.**

- A.** The Word of the Kingdom is miracle working power (Mat. 13:19).
- B.** The Word is power (Gk. *dunamis*), miracle working ability (Rom. 1:16).
- C.** All our decisions should be made according to the Word of God.
- D.** Understand (Gk. *sunieimi*) means put together, comprehend (Mat. 13:19).
- E.** How is it that a person can hear the Word on a matter and then ignore it (Mat. 13, Mark 4, Luke 8).
- F.** Jesus emphasizes the importance of the Word of God.
- G.** Lodge (Gk. *kataskenoo*) means to camp down; remain, have a place to go, home, safe place. This is someone who received and acted on the Word (Mat 13:31, 32).
- H.** God's Word will affect your entire human system (Mat. 13:33).
- I.** God's Word is the most valuable thing in life (Mat. 13:44).
- J.** The Word is priceless; we forsake all else for the Word (Mat. 13:46).
- K.** God's Word is spiritual food "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God." –*Matthew 4:4* (NKJV)
- L.** Not all spiritual food is good. You may not think of it this way, but when you consume anything in your eyes and ears—it is going into your spirit.
- M.** When you feed on the right spiritual food—the Word of God—again and again, you will give your spirit the strength to stand on the Word against any force of the enemy.

### **II. The Word will not pass away** (Mat. 24:35).

- A.** Jesus asked the question, "Who is my mother?" (Luke 8:19-21).
- B.** Every scribe reminds them of the old and offers new revelation (Mat. 13:52).
- C.** The word keeps people out of hell (Mat 13:24-30).
- D.** You were saved by confessing Jesus as Lord (Rom. 10:9-10)
- E.** The helmet of salvation is the spoken Word of God. (Ephesians 6:17)
- F.** Hope (Gk. *elpis*) is expectation or confidence (1 Thessalonians 5:8).
- G.** Salvation (Gk. *soteria*) means rescue, safety, deliver and health.
- H.** Believe that your helmet is the hope of your salvation.

### **III. Jesus is showing us the mysteries of the Kingdom** (Mat. 13:11, 12).

- A.** Lest at any time means on-time access. Understand (Gk. *sunieimi*) means to put together mentally, comprehend, to act piously, consider, and be wise. (Mat. 13:15)
- B.** They made decisions that led to their lack.
- C.** Jesus discloses the secret to the Kingdom of God (Mark 4:26-29).
- D.** Take time and to study this parable in Mat.13, Mark 4 and Luke 8 until they are in your heart. Study till you become an expert (Joshua 1 :8)
- E.** It should be your spiritual lens through which you see the world.

#### **IV. Christians should have God's world view.**

- A.** Five satanic tools can stop the power of God in your life (Mark 4:13-20).
- B.** You become more inclined to make wrong choices if you allow these demonic tools distract us from the Word.
- C.** They did it to themselves (Mark 4:15).
- D.** They gladly received the Word but caved under pressure (Mark 4:16-17).
- E.** Distractions (cares) of this world choke the Word (Mark 4:18). The world is a noisy, distracting place. We must be careful to keep our priorities straight.
- F.** In 2020, satan used the pandemic, racial strife and the presidential election to turn the people away from God.
- G.** Mark 4:19 says "it" becomes unfruitful. How can God's Word be unfruitful?
- H.** Mat. 13:22 says "he" became unfruitful.
- I.** Being unfruitful is when other things besides the Word of God dominated that person's decisions and the believer results are not profitable to him.
- J.** When the Word is inside us, rough times will not stop us from bearing fruit. (Job 14:7-9).
- K.** You should have a biblical worldview if you are one of His disciples.
- L.** We must not make the mistake of assuming we need to add to God's Word by doing something to make it effective; the Word is the only thing we need. We are to put it first.
- M.** We should consider all the issues in our lives considering what God says about them. His Word brings power and favor into operation on our behalf.
- N.** Our jobs, our children, our spouses, or any number of other things compete for our attention and devotion. We must not let them become more important than the Word and our relationship with God.
- O.** Taking God out of first place in our lives and replacing Him with something or someone else is idolatry; we live in a world full of idols. (Colossians 3:5)

#### **V The kingdom of God does not consist solely of speaking words; it is the ability to get results.**

- A.** When we sow the seed of His Word into our lives and cultivate it, we will see change. (1 Corinthians 4:20).
- B.** For the kingdom realm of God comes with power, not simply impressive words (1 Corinthians 4:20, TPT).
- C.** But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you (Matthew 6:33).
- D.** The kingdom of God is contained in the Word of God. The Word is seed, and the Word is Jesus. (Luke 17:20, 21).
- E.** Jesus is the king over God's kingdom; He embodies everything the kingdom stands for. Therefore, the kingdom of God is already a present-tense reality in the hearts of God's children.
- F.** God's children are the people who have been born again, who have invited Jesus into their lives. When Jesus moved into us, so did the kingdom. (Colossians 1:13).
- G.** The kingdom starts in us, in our hearts, and moves outward from there. (Proverbs 4:23).
- H.** Jesus is the kingdom of God. He is righteousness, peace, and joy; all of these are present in the kingdom.

**VI God's Word brings us peace. Our part in the process is to believe and stay at rest.** (Hebrews 4:2, 3, 11).

- A.** The greatest fear Christians have today is the fear that God's Word will not come to pass for them. We must believe what He says.
- B.** The authenticity of our belief is determined by whether or not we have entered into rest. When we are at rest, we cease to labor.
- C.** As believers, our labor now consists of remaining at rest, regardless of what is going on around us.
- D.** Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all (1 Timothy 4:15).
- E.** In the world, there are plenty of things to meditate on; we only find peace when we meditate on the Word. (Psalm 1:2).
- F.** What we meditate on is influenced by who, or what, we trust
- G.** When we believe it, the Word gives us authority. We must walk in that authority, no matter what the world does.
- H.** Entering His rest is how we authenticate our faith.
- I.** The labor referred to is meditating on the Word and speaking it out loud.
- J.** To profit from the Word, we must roll it over in our minds, think about it, and declare it

**VIII. 2 Peter 1:3 tells us there is a promise of God that covers everything in life.**

- A.** God and the world are not equal.
- B.** If you seemingly cannot get ahead, your answer is in the Word of God.
- C.** Be the one in four who agrees with the Bible.
- D.** We must trust in God more than in anything else. He will guide us.
- E.** Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. (Proverbs 3:5, 6).
- F.** Some people want to choose their own way in life, but this will not give them the results they want. God's way is the only way. There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death (Proverbs 14:12).
- G.** Trusting in God and keeping our minds on His Word gives us peace. Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee (Isaiah 26:3).
- H.** When the storm blew in, Jesus was asleep, resting in the back of the boat. When we truly believe something, we can rest peacefully.
- I.** Regardless of what we see and hear around us, we must maintain our faith and keep our focus on Jesus. Choose to be the one in four who hears the Word, receives it, believes it, speaks it and acts on it. That is how we will be Strong in the Lord and experience the miraculous power of God in our everyday life.