**Understanding how to live free from Condemnation and Failure Handout # 5**

**There will be very little success in a believer’s life unless they know the Word of God!**

1. **In the last days many will depart from the Word of God! a.** Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; (1 Timothy 4:1) **B**. The enemy uses the power of suggestion against us. Unclean spirits get involved in our thought lives by making suggestions; if those thoughts are not confronted and dealt with, they will be like lumber delivered to a construction site to be used to build a fortress inour minds. Once completed, those thoughts will seem correct. **C**. The mind is the arena of faith and the place where the battle is waged; our minds are under attack. **D**. For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he… (Proverbs 23:7). **E**. When a thought pops up in our minds that contradicts God’s Word, we must speak the word to pull down the contradictory thought **F**. The main purpose of the local church is to build up the saints, to bring maturity in the Word of God. **G.** The word of God is vital for a lifestyle of growth in the things of God. **H.** thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee (Psalm 119:11) **I**. I consider your Word to be my greatest treasure, and I treasure it in my heart to keep me from committing sin’s treason against you. (Psalm 119:11) **J.** Sin comes from three sources: The world, our flesh, and the devil. **K**. We are to take the word of God and quote it at the world – who comes against us. **l**. Satan and his demonic forces that come against us. And we are to quote it to our own flesh. **M.** But to quote the word at these forces, we must know the Word of God. **n.** Jesus was confronted by Satan and every time He told Satan, “It is written… **O.** But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.” (Matthew 4:4) **p**. He answered, “The Scriptures say: Bread alone will not satisfy, but true life is found in every word that constantly goes forth from God’s mouth.”(TPT)
2. **Understanding the Word of God is key to your success a**. For this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.” **(2 Peter1: 5-9) b**. For he who lacks these things." Lack what things? **C.** The knowledge of the word of God. Plus, all the virtue that is added to it. **D**. Knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and finally agape love. **E.** He says, "For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to the point of blindness, and has forgotten he was ones cleansed from his old sins. **F.** You know what this verse is saying? The more we understand the word of God, the more fruitful we become. **G**. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them (Matthew 7:20) **H**. So devote yourselves to lavishly supplementing your faith with goodness, and to goodness add understanding,**6** and to understanding add the strength of self-control, and to self-control add patient endurance, and to patient endurance add godliness,**7** and to godliness add mercy toward your brothers and sisters, and to mercy toward others add unending love.**8** Since these virtues are already planted deep within, and you possess them in abundant supply, they will keep you from being inactive or fruitless in your pursuit of knowing Jesus Christ more intimately. **9** But if anyone lacks these things, he is blind, constantly closing his eyes to the mysteries of our faith and forgetting his innocence—for his past sins have been washed away. (2 Peter1: 5-9) (TPT)
3. **What is the Word of God For? A.** The word brings stability into our life, but it also brings a total absolute assurance. **B**. No one can tell me I am not saved; I know I am saved because the word of God tells me I am saved not because I feel it. **C**. And wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times, and strength of salvation: the fear of the Lord is his treasure. (Isaiah 33:6) **d**. Wisdom and knowledge…" This is the input and output of the word. **E.** Wisdom is the correct application of the word of God. **F**. Knowledge will be the stability of your times. If there is anything the world needs today, it needs stable Christians. And Christians need to be stable. We do not act like the world! **G**. He will be your constant source of stability in changing times, and out of his abundant love he gives you the riches of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge. Yes, the fear of the Lord is the key to this treasure (Isaiah 33:6) TPT **H**. Notice this, wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of your times and the strength of your salvation. **I.** Who is that for? Those who fear the Lord. **G**. Reverence for God and His word is the most important thing in your life.
4. **Are you applying the Word You hear?** **A**. Therefore, whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.” And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching.” (Matthew 7:24-27) **b.** At the closing of the sermon on the Mount, Jesus told them, “Whoever hears these sayings of Mine…” Hears - in the Greek, means “keeps on hearing. **C.** He goes on to say, “and does them.” **D**. You could hear all these wonderful things and not do them. The word is to be applied in your life. Wisdom is the correct application of knowledge. **E.** Every Christian will go through trials and temptations. **F.** The winds and the rains will come and believers who know the word and apply the word are like “the wise man who built his house on the rock.” This Rock is unshakable. **G.** Everyone who hears my teaching and applies it to his life can be compared to a wise man who built his house on an unshakable foundation. (Matthew 7:24) (TPT) **h**. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all “(Psalms 34:19) **i**. How does He deliver us out of them all? Mainly through His word. **J.** Standing on His word. Believing His word. Putting his word into application into our life becoming a doer of the word of God causes us to be able to come through the trials of life and come out successful on the other side. **K**. You grow through the trial **L.** *It is not the trial that makes you strong*. ***It is the word you use in the trial that makes you strong.***  **M.** If trials made us strong, every Christian would be strong. Jesus gave us the example that when the trials, troubles, and tribulations of life come, take the word of God in our heart, and put it in our mouth and speak it. **N**. or it is not you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Matthew 10:20 (AMP)
5. **Your Obedience Honors the Lord a.** And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. (1 Samuel 15:22) **b.** Obedience is what you do when you are alone. What you do when only God sees what you do. **c**. This is more than just your outward actions. This comes from your character. **D**. Character is developed and built upon the fruit of the Spirit **e.** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. (Galatians 5:22-23) **f**. A person who is bearing fruit is a type of disciple. What is the concept of a disciple? Someone who hears the word and obeys **g**. The greatness of the Christian life is when you hear the word of God you benefit others around you and your life becomes pleasing to God. **h.** Obedience is not just joining the church or the choir or helping in the church. These are all things that are done in front of people. It is more than giving money in the offering or witnessing. None of these things should be done to earn God’s blessing. **i.** Obedience may mean turning off radio or listening to secular music while you are driving. There is nothing wrong in these things, but to grow in the things of God, you may have to change. **J.** Try listening to the word to and from your way to work; early in the morning or while you sleep at night. **K**. God's pattern for spiritual growth comes from the word of God. Your obedience to the Word of God is being obedient to His Plan **l.** Going to church is like eating out. It is great when someone else prepares and serves the food to you, but your personal study of the word is like you eating at home. **M**. When you study, pray over it, and meditate on it you get things for yourself. **N**. When we meditate on the word the word is possessing your thoughts. **O**. MEDITATION MAKES THE TRANSFER FROM WHAT YOU SEE AS FACT IN YOUR LIFE TO WHAT IS TRUE AS IT IS WRITTEN IN HEAVEN **p**. WHEN YOU MEDITATE ON THE WORD, YOU RECEIVE REVELATION OF IT **q.** many times we are struggling in areas of our lives. **R.** This may not be the devil as much as a lack if meditation on God’s word in the area we are struggling until that word becomes revelation **s**. Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates? (2 Corinthians 13:5) **t**. Test yourselves to make sure you are solid in the faith. Don’t drift along taking everything for granted. Give yourselves regular checkups. You need firsthand evidence, not mere hearsay, that Jesus Christ is in you. Test it out. If you fail the test, do something about it (MSG) **u** Obedience is part of our love for God. **v.** Deuteronomy 6:5 says, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.” **W**. This is what God is asking of us. Even grace is part of our service for the Lord. God has provided everything we need to accomplish His will **x**. Hebrews 8:10 says,” I will put My laws in their mind (this is where we start) and write them on their hearts (this is where we meditate on it and it becomes revelation).” **Y.** the importance of walking in the word and in obedience to God is critical for your life **Z**. Psalms 19:11 says that we will receive a great reward not only here in life but also in eternity. Simply take the word of God and become obedient to it. There are so many great rewards when you do. It will cause you to grow, to mature, to become a blessing to others around you as well as to yourself. But most of all, you will be pleasing to God.