

The Transformative Power of God's Word

Hello, many blessings.

We are in Level 1 of the discipleship classes.

Before starting this class, let me pray: "Lord, I ask You to open our minds so that we may now receive everything You have prepared for us in relation to the Bible. We ask, especially, that each one of us may encounter You and hear Your voice through the Bible. Amen."

Today I want to talk to you about the transformative power of God's Word.

To experience the great transformative power of God's Word in our lives, two key spiritual disciplines are prayer and reading His Word. Our relationship with God's Word will directly impact our lives.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NIV) says: *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*"

These verses speak to me in this way—When we approach the Bible, we can think of two elements: knowledge and the living experience of transformation.

The first question we should ask ourselves is *what truly motivates us to read the Bible?*

Some incorrect motivations:

- Reading the Bible out of a sense of responsibility.
- We are Christians, and therefore, we feel obligated to read it.
- Reading the Bible out of a sense of guilt.
- We feel accused because we think we don't read the Bible enough.

A good motivation to read the Bible is to feel the pleasure of knowing that God speaks to me through it. If we read God's Word with the right motivation, transformation will come to our lives.

Colossians 3:16 (KJV) says, *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another."*

This is a good motivation—through the Word of God, I hear God, I let the Word dwell in me, and with wisdom, I can teach others.

Something very important:

As disciples of Christ, there are things that God will do in our lives, and there are things we must do to achieve that transformation. Maybe we want transformation, but we don't do anything on our part to activate it. In this idea, we can ask ourselves:

Can we create the habit of reading the Bible daily?

The answer is yes.

For God's Word to transform my life, I must create the habit of reading it. Habits are actions or behaviors that I do regularly and automatically, without needing to think about them consciously. They are formed through repetition.

For example, brushing your teeth after meals or fastening your seatbelt every time you get into a car.

To create a habit, I must think of it as **training**.

My Testimony of Riding a Bicycle:

Three years ago, I started my training with a goal I could achieve. I committed to riding one mile every day for fifteen days. Once I felt ready, I increased it to two miles daily. I tried to do it at the same time each day. After a month, I aimed for five miles, and after three months, I was riding ten miles. Thanks to my training, I developed the habit of riding my bike five or six days a week, reaching my goal of ten miles per day.

The opposite of training is trying. That's why I encourage you to train daily and stop just trying to do things. You can start your training with Bible verses, then with chapters, until the sum of all this time allows me to read a complete book, understand it, and study it.

Only if I do it consistently will I create a habit.

Another action we can take to have a process of transformation in our lives is:

Having a plan.

One of the key points when reading the Bible is having a plan.

To make a plan, I must ask myself:

- What will I read?
- When will I read it?
- Where will I read it?
- How much time will I dedicate?

Many times, our approach to the Bible consists of reading random passages or verses, and we don't have a clear idea of what part of the Bible we are reading or why. Not having a plan leads to frustration, and we lose the desire to read God's Word.

What?

What book of the Bible should I read each day?

In our case, during this discipleship period, we will be reading the book of Luke in the New Testament. There are 24 chapters.

When?

What time of day will you set aside to read and study the Bible?

Maybe in the morning, at the start of the day, during your lunch break, when you get home after work, or at the end of the day when everyone is resting or sleeping, etc.

Always do it at the same time, as this will help you create the habit in your training. For bike riding, I prefer to do it at 5 pm.

Where?

Where will you read?

Ideally, it would be a quiet, private place where you can be alone with God and focus on the reading without distractions. But sometimes this isn't possible, and we have to find alternatives.

In my experience, I ride my bike around my house.

How long?

How much time are you willing to invest, and how much time do you have available?

To ride ten miles on my bike, I need 50 minutes, and I set aside that time to do it. The time you set will be crucial in your transformation process.

An important thing when reading God's Word is choosing a version or translation. I use the "Contemporary English Version." There are other versions such as the "New International Version" or the "New Living Translation," which I also like. It's your choice. If you feel comfortable with the King James Version, that's fine—it's your decision.

I encourage you to design your Bible reading plan. In summary, one of the biggest challenges we face when reading God's Word is:

1. Having a good **motivation**.
2. Establishing the **habit** of reading through **training**.
3. Having a **plan** for what I will do.

These three things are what I can do to see the transformation of my life.

Now, I want to talk to you about **the transformative power of God's Word**.

1. The Power of Revelation of God's Word in Our Lives

God doesn't just want to give us knowledge; He wants to give us revelation.

The word "revelation" comes from Latin, meaning to remove the veil or make visible something that was hidden. God wants to remove the veil from our understanding so we can grasp the deep truths found in His Word.

Every time you read God's Word, there are precious revelations. This is the transformative power of God's Word. God wants to give you revelation and speak to the deepest part of your heart.

An illustration of the revelatory power of God's Word is to think of a mirror. When you and I look in a mirror, many things are revealed unless we close our eyes.

James 1:23-25 (NIV) says, *"23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror 24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like."*

2. The Power of Inspiration of God's Word

When reading the Scriptures, God wants to inspire you through His Holy Spirit.

Inspiration means to influence or motivate someone to do something. God inspired the authors who wrote the different parts of the Bible, and that same divine inspiration is available to us today.

In a physical sense, inspiration is the act of breathing. When you inspire, you fill your lungs with fresh air, and through them, you renew your body.

This is exactly what God wants to do through His Word in your life. He wants you to inspire it, to fill yourself with that fresh air that comes from His presence so that you can feel renewed, strengthened, transformed, and full of life.

3. The Power of the Truth of God's Word

We live in a world of darkness, and we need to receive God's truth not only in our minds but also in our hearts. The truth contained in God's Word has great power.

When we read His Word, we receive this truth from God, and it produces a process of transformation within us.

God's Word offers truths that provide wisdom and direction for decision-making and for facing life's challenges.

2 Timothy 3:16 (KJV) says, *"All Scripture is inspired by God, and is profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."*

God's Word contains truths that have the power to renew the mind and transform a person's life.

John 17:17 (NIV) – Jesus, speaking to His Father, prays for His disciples and asks: *"Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth."*

4. The Power of Confessing God's Word

When we read God's Word, we are confessing it, that is, verbally declaring the Scriptures and God's promises. This brings many blessings to our lives.

When we confess God's Word, in return, He can offer forgiveness, reconciliation, and a sense of spiritual renewal.

Confession has the potential to free a person from emotional, spiritual, and moral burdens, providing relief and a sense of transformation.

When we read God's Word, we are confessing its truths.

"TO READ IS TO CONFESS"

Confessing God's Word strengthens my faith.

When you and I confess God's Word, it reinforces and deepens our faith in Him.

Confessing the Scriptures and God's promises reminds us of God's faithfulness and power, resulting in an increase in our faith and hope in God.

Our faith in God is built up daily through God's Word. The Word of God fills you with faith so you can see incredible miracles in
The word of God fills you with faith so that you can see incredible miracles in your life.

Romans 10:17 (KJV) says: "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Confessing the word of God transforms me

The confession of God's word can have a transformative effect on a person's life. Reading and confessing it leads us to experience a renewal of the mind and heart.

Hebrews 4:12 (KJV) says: "For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

Confessing the word of God sets me free

Confessing the Scriptures can be an act of spiritual warfare. By declaring God's truth aloud, you can resist and overcome the influence of negative thoughts, doubts, and spiritual attacks from the enemy.

There is power in the word of God to bring freedom and victory in areas of personal struggle.

Romans 10:9-10 (NIV) says, *"If you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved."*

In summary, the word of God reveals itself in our lives, it inspires us, it is truth, and it can be confessed. All of this has great power to transform our lives.

We hope that all this information will be of great value to you. Our purpose is to give you a clearer and broader vision of each topic we are presenting to you and help you grow as a disciple of Christ.