



The Bible - feeding on the Word

The Bible is the world's best selling book with over 30 million copies sold per year and well over 6 billion in total since records began. For a Christian, the bible is the manual of how we are to live our lives in a pleasing way that will develop our relationship with God. However the Bible is more than a manual, it is actual spiritual food that sustains us and gives us what we need to grow in our faith and understanding. There is no way that we can find an intimate relationship with God, or develop a mature and powerful Christian life unless we read God's Word regularly.

Discuss - (In group / or small groups)

- Q1) Have you ever read any of the Bible? If so did you find it easy or hard? Give reasons for your answer
- Q2) Where do you think the Bible comes from?
- Q3) Do you think it is important to obey the Bible - If so why?

So what facts can we discover that highlight the absolute importance of the Bible to the life of a true follower of Jesus?

Fact 1 - The Bible is the Inspired Word of God

As Christians we believe that the Bible is not a book written by man, out of man's imagination. But we believe that the writings of the Bible are a true activity of God, and it is Him who inspired the human writers to write what they did. What we find in the Bible is **God's Revelation of truth** written through a human agent. The Bible is God's truth empowered by God's authority.

2 Peter 1 v 20 - 21 reveal this to us _____

Again 2 Timothy 3 v 16 - 17 highlight this fact to us _____

Fact 2 - The Bible effects every aspect of our Christian lives.

Jesus makes it clear that the Word of God is the foundation that we can build our Christian lives upon. As a result of this what we learn from the Word of God should have a shaping effect on every aspect of our lives. If we want to live a life that is pleasing to God then we must know His word and obey it. Psalm 119 v 1 - 16 reveal to us this foundation _____

Matthew 7 v 21 - 29 _____

Fact 3 - The Bible is full of promises that God gives us and wants us to claim

One of the realities that we discover about His relationship with you and me is that He loves to provide for His people. In the Bible we are given promise after promise that God not only wants us to discover, but he wants us to claim them for ourselves. We do this by believing in the promise and then through prayer and faith asking God for His promises to become a reality in our lives.

Matthew 7 v 7 - 12 _____

Fact 4 - The true power of the Bible is only seen when we obey it!!

Openness of heart and a willingness to obey are core principles that need to be manifested in the life of a believer if the Word of God is really going to have the powerful impact that it should. The Word of God needs to be **HEARD, ACCEPTED** and **OBEYED** for the full power of God to be manifested through it into your life. Jesus made it clear it is not those who just believe in Him that will be called His friends, but only those who obey what He has commanded. John 14 v 21, Joshua 1 v 8, James 1 v 21 - 25 _____

The Word of God in every way releases, deepens and matures the faith of a Christian. For a true God given faith that sees God's promises become a reality, God's Spirit shaping the life of a believer and mighty ministry released, we need to read the Word of God daily. Meditate on that Word, know, obey and believe what the Word of God tells us. For the Word of God **IS** a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my Path!!

