

## Feeding on the Word

John 6: 41 – 58

Jeremiah 15:16

We need not only to read the Word daily, we need also to meditate upon it to digest it. We need to know how to take the Word and allow it to feed our soul. Listen to the words of (Jeremiah 15:16), "When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear your name, O Lord God Almighty." Also, the Psalmist tells us in (Psalm 119:11), "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you." There ought to be a great appreciation for the Word of God to know that it was given to guide us spiritually through this life. There are several wonders concerning the book itself. The formation, how it all came together. The unification of sixty-six books with a basic general theme. Its preservation, through hundreds and hundreds of years. Written mostly by unlearned men, guided by the Holy Spirit.

The Apostle Paul also has words of wisdom as he writes about finding the word in (2 Timothy 2:15), "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth." There are Paul's words concerning feeding on the word in (2 Timothy 3:16), "All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness." and then Paul tells us the end of the finding and feeding in (2 Timothy 3:17), "so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." Let's consider together the finding, feeding and follow-up of God's Word in our spiritual journey.

1. The finding of God's Word. There are many folks who wait for someone to feed them the Word of God. However, if there is no opportunity to be with others and they don't know how to feed themselves, they will starve spiritually. There are basically three steps to finding God's Word. 1. Search. It is a treasure to be dug for and found, we need to seek in order to find and through the searching we mature in the faith. There are tools available to help in this search, such as commentaries, concordance and Bible dictionary to name a few. 2. Desire. Remember the parables of the woman and her lost coin and the shepherd and his lost sheep. They searched diligently

and kept at it until they found that which was lost. It takes persistence. 3. Feed. We must feed on the Word and internalize it before we can share it with others. That is why God had Ezekiel eat a scroll as recorded in (Ezekiel 3). God didn't want Ezekiel telling without trying. Likewise, God doesn't want us learning without living, he doesn't want us finding without feeding. We must allow God to work in our lives through his Word.

2. The feeding on God's Word. There is a difference between "finding" and "feeding". 1. Finding, it is like grain in the barn, having resources. Feeding, bread on the table, nourishment. 2. Finding, gathering scriptural knowledge, facts. Feeding, hiding the facts in your heart, practice, live it. 3. Finding, can be a onetime discovery. Feeding, continual learning and practicing, digesting. Always something new to be learned. Question: What is God doing in your life today? 4. Finding, brings excitement. Feeding, brings energy, it sustains and strengthens. 5. Finding, can be the result of others help. Feeding, must be personal. Learn to feed yourself.
3. The Follow-up of God's Word, Results. George Mueller, a great man of God said, "I never stop reading the Bible until it makes me happy." How long would we need to read to be happy? When we begin to search with great desire we will find and thus have much to feed on. Allow the Word of God to make its home in you, Feed on it until it becomes a way of life. In so doing, we then become more understanding of all the Lord requires of us, and how we can live in obedience to him.

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