

Time to Take a Bath

Scripture: Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will..- Romans 12:2 (NIV)

What goes through your mind when your mom yells out the backdoor “time to come in, it’s bath time.” Do you run away? Do you try and prolong the inevitable? Do you come in immediately and do it cause you enjoy it? Most kids fall into one of these two categories. They either hate having to do it, and often will not wash completely like they should and have to do it over again, or they LOVE it. However, something changes when you become a teenager. You decide you want to look your best and smell the best for all the ladies, or gentlemen, you are trying to impress. However, there is one thing that is consistent, in both cases, in making sure you are “clean” from the dirt. It’s called soap. Soap is the element that is solid, but when mixed with water, and makes contact on the skin, will clean off all the stench, dirt, and grease in order to ensure one is truly clean. But did you know that the Word of God and soap have a lot in common?

In comparison to God’s word and soap...the soap cleanses our physical bodies of germs, dirt, oil, sweat, paint, and anything else that we may need to wash off. God’s word does the same thing spiritually. It helps us get “cleaned up” from the sins, struggles, and habits we need to change and remove. God’s word, compared to soap, is sometimes really strong, and yet sometimes really mild. If we have sin in our life and it has not been washed away by the blood of Jesus, then we will not be clean. No amount of external soap will help the physical body as long as it stays in the box. Likewise, neither can the word of God help us in our spiritual walk with Jesus if we never open it up to see the contents inside. You can use any kind of soap to wash the outside of your body and clean it, but only the blood of Jesus can and will clean our hearts on the inside. When Jesus cleans us, He washes away ALL our sins, bad thoughts, feelings of wrong, etc. He cleanses us up so that our external body will show His love, kindness, joy, peace, meekness, goodness, faith, longsuffering. When we are clean on the inside, it will show on the outside. We must let our light shine to others that they can see that Jesus has made a difference in our life, both inside and out. Someone once asked Billy Graham if Christianity is valid, why is there so much evil in the world? Dr. Graham replied “with so much soap why are there so many dirty people in the world?” Christianity, like soap, must be personally applied (both daily we hope) if it is to make a difference in our lives. How can you make sure your friends, family, parents, etc. can see the difference Jesus made in your life? If He hasn’t been applied to your life like soap, then today is a good day to take a “shower” in His presence and get “cleaned up.”

Prayer: Lord, thank you for loving me when I didn’t always love you. Forgive me of my sins and CLEAN me up from all the things that are wrong. Help me to apply your Word daily to my heart. In Jesus name, Amen!

Written by: Brenda Padgett