

# Lesson 10: The Messenger Part 2: Being in the Word

---

## Lesson Introduction

“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path” (Ps 119:105).

It’s not the normal Christian experience to hear direct messages from God today. In fact, it wasn’t the normal experience for believers in any dispensation. Yes, prophets and other key leaders did, at various times, receive direct communication from God. But that was never the norm.

The normal is for the believer to read the written word of God, the Scriptures. Israel was expected to know the law. Nehemiah 8:8 says, “So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly and gave the sense and caused them to understand the reading.” Israel’s leaders were expected to do what Joshua was commanded to do in Joshua 1:7-8: “That thou mayest observe to do according to all the law which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.”

Jesus continually expected the Jews He met to know and apply the law also. In Matthew 12:5 He says, “Have ye not read in the law how that on the Sabbath days the priests in the temple profane the sabbath and are blameless?” In Luke 10:26, “He said unto him, ‘What is written in the law? How readest you?’”

We are also expected to know and apply God’s word. He told Timothy to, “Study to shew thyself approved unto God a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Tim 2:15).

## Lesson Outline

### Lesson 10: The Messenger Part 2: Being in the Word

- Topic 1: The Importance of God’s Word
- Topic 2: Growing in God’s Word
- Topic 3: The Power in God’s Word
- Topic 4: The Simplicity of God’s Word
- Topic 5: Winning People by Identifying with Them
- Topic 6: How to Study God’s Word

## Topic 1: The Importance of God’s Word

“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly nor standeth in the way of sinners nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD and in his law doth he meditate day and night” (Ps 1:1-2).

God’s word has always kept His people right before Him. When the copy of the law of the Lord had been found in the time of King Josiah, God’s wrath had been kindled against Israel (2 Kgs 22:8-13). Without the guidance of the law they had transgressed against the Lord. They had not obeyed God’s word because of its absence. Those of us who ignore His words and commands today face the same danger.

## Assignment

- Please memorize 2 Timothy 2:15.

Now the messenger; you got to learn to use your Bible. The Bible is the greatest tool you will ever have, there is no tool like it. It is very important that you be able to use that tool, and use it wisely. Now, the holy Scriptures are able to make a person wise unto salvation. We see Romans 10:17, so then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. How important that is to say that, and to see it and how important it is. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God. God exalts his word even above his own name. Psalm 138:2 I will worship toward the holy Temple and praised thy name for thy loving kindness and for thy truth for thou dost magnify thy word above all above all thy name. God's word is held higher than his own name. What do you mean by that? You know our word, when we give a person our word, our word should mean something. God exalts his word even above his own name. When you worship the word you are worshiping Christ because Christ was the word, and is the word. We can't understand all that exactly but that's exactly what it's saying. Now with such high recommendation from God himself we certainly should know the Bible well. If God says that this Bible is more, to be worshiped more than his own name, if he holds this Bible up higher than his own name, and we should make this Bible one of the most important things we could ever have in our life. If God says it, that we should make this Bible something. Now 2nd Timothy 2:15, study to show that itself approved on to God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. We should take very seriously right? We should study the word of God. When you are in church and we give you these verses you should make little notes, and you should maybe even file them. You should study the word of God. You should be able to give people answers, and you will be surprised what you can absorb. Sometimes we think were not absorbing, but you will be surprised how much you are absorbing. You are absorbing more than you think.

## QUESTION 1

Please write 2 Timothy 2:15 from memory.

## QUESTION 3

The Bible is the greatest \_\_\_\_\_ you will ever have.

## Topic 2: Growing in God's Word

Peter tells new Christians how to grow. "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that you may grow thereby" (1 Pet 2:2). The only way to grow is to learn about God and what he commands by reading, studying God's word. This knowledge gives the Holy Spirit material to work with to train your conscience. It informs your prayer and directs your lives.

## Assignment

- Please memorize 1 Peter 3:15.

Now yes it is possible to win souls, with very little knowledge. But we need to grow. You know a baby grows. As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word that you may grow thereby. As newborn babes. Those who desire to be fruitful soul winners should be ready to give an answer to every man. It is very important that you are always able to do that. In first Peter 3:15, now listen these are good verses you need to take these verses and use them, but sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and be ready always to

give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that lieth in you with meekness and fear. We should be ready, ready to give an answer. Romans 1:15, so as much as is in me I am ready to preach the gospel unto you that are at Rome also. In other words we should always be ready. Paul was ready because he memorized Scriptures, he knew the word of God. I still remember Scriptures that I learned in Bible college, and it stays with you. You know we had to learn to read and memorized fast in Bible college. My wife said, I don't know how you do it. I would do 7 or 8 verses in a matter of a few minutes. And you say how do you do it? You have to do it. When you are brought under pressure you do it quickly. What is the power? That's the word of God. And I love this verse because I memorized this verse, the word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword. Now we think of a two-edged sword, man, a sword that will cut either way. Well this is sharper than any two-edged sword. Piercing even to the dividing asunder soul and spirit, and joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. How do we know the word of God is, listen. The word of God is the power. You know some people say I don't want to listen to the word of God. You can prove the word of God is the power. Its powerful. There is no book like it. You know sometimes you will be witnessing to somebody and they will say, I don't believe that Bible. And they act real intellectual, and even though they say they don't believe it, if you were on the battlefield, and you are shooting your Uzi, and you were on the battlefield, and someone says I don't appreciate that Uzi, you wouldn't throw it down would you? Well I hope not. Listen this word of God is the power, and keep that in mind. Don't ever forget it. It's the power. Sometimes we will be dealing with people that are, believe they are highly educated, the Bible says that any man that says there is no God is a fool, only a fool says in his heart there is no God. Listen you stay on the word of God, and if someone doesn't want to hear it, listen, quite giving it to them. The Bible says don't cast you're pearls before swine. It says if they don't want to hear it stop it. Just forget it. It does not matter.

#### **QUESTION 4**

It is possible to win souls with very little Bible knowledge. *True or False?*

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **QUESTION 5**

Please write 1 Peter 3:15 from memory.

#### **QUESTION 6**

The Bible verse you would use to show someone that God's word is powerful is \_\_\_\_\_ .

- A. Romans 1:15
- B. Hebrews 4:12
- C. 1 Peter 2:2
- D. 1 Peter 3:15

#### **QUESTION 7**

In soul winning it's always important to stay on the offensive. *True or False?*

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

## Topic 3: The Power in God's Word

Thankfully, for God's witnesses, the salvation of others doesn't depend on the strength of our arguments. That is why Paul says, "For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect" (1 Cor 1:17). "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness, but unto us which are saved it is the power of God" (1 Cor 1:18). The power is in the cross and God's word, not ours.

In first Corinthians 2:4 -- 5, in my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom but in demonstration of the spirit and power that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of man but in the power of God. It is the word of God yes. As we learn to interpret the word of God, and as we learn to practically apply the word of God we are going to be more powerful with the word of God, and as we grow in Christ we are going to have more power because that is the power. And as we grow more holy in Christ, we are going to have more power. But it's the word of God. What we need is the word of God, and we need to believe the word of God and that is what is so important, to be able to see the word of God.

### QUESTION 8

According to 1 Corinthians 2:4-5, which of the following characterized Paul's preaching? (*Select all that apply.*) Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Demonstrations of man's wisdom
- B. Demonstrations of power
- C. Demonstrations of the Spirit
- D. Enticing words

### QUESTION 9

Learning to practically apply the word of God helps us to be more powerful with God's word. *True or False?* Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

## Topic 4: The Simplicity of God's Word

As we saw in the Topic 3 introduction, Paul determined to keep his message simple (1 Cor 1:17-18). That way, Christ crucified was the simple message. He purposely didn't complicate the message by speaking of other issues. He wanted to emphasize the perfect work of Christ.

### Assignment

- Please memorize 2 Corinthians 11:3.

Paul was so concerned, here is what he was concerned with, he was so concerned that they would take away the simplicity of the word of God. In first Corinthians 2:4, and my speech my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom but in demonstration of the spirit in power that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of man but in the power of God. Then, in 2nd Corinthians 11:3, but I fear, lest by any means as the serpent beguiled Eve, through his subtlety, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. Boy we just never need to turn from that simplicity. You know Satan will never come with the sweet quiet voice, and say, look Christian this person is very moral and intelligent, and up-to-date citizen, if you start talking to him about the Bible and Jesus is blood and having faith, he will absolutely think you're nuts. See Satan won't say that. Satan is too subtle. Satan will make you think that. Satan will make you think, well this person is so wise. Listen friends let me tell you if you knew the people that you think are so wise, and really got to know them you would wonder how in the world they are thought of as so wise. Some people think, well this person is so polished. Listen you would be

surprised, those people you think are so polished, if you would give them a clear gospel what effect you might have. We are afraid to reach the bigger people sometimes, and we need to use the same power with them that we would use with anyone else. You know there are some powerful people out there that no one has ever told them about God, and we want to be able to start telling people about God. We want to be very very cautious about how we do that. In Colossians 2: 8 it says beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit after the tradition of man after the rudiments of the world and not after Christ. Oh it is so easy to be spoiled. It is so easy to think over these things are so great. It is so easy to think, then, if we could just have this it would be so great, but it's not. And what a tragedy it is, it really is.

Now if you are dealing with someone, and you can quote some science facts in the Bible, you could quote prophecies, if you are dealing with the Jews, you could quote prophecy, and we are going to get into that in more detail. We are going to give you scientific ways to prove the Bible, and prophetic facts that prove the Bible. Listen, learn the Scriptures, learn the Scriptures.

### **QUESTION 10**

Please write 2 Corinthians 11:3 from memory.

### **QUESTION 11**

As our culture becomes more sophisticated we may have to turn from the simplicity of the gospel. *True or False?* Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

### **QUESTION 12**

It is better to avoid giving the gospel to powerful and influential people. *True or False?*

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

### **QUESTION 13**

With someone who is scientifically inclined, it is good to show them some science facts from the Bible. *True or False?* Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Topic 5: Winning People by Identifying with Them**

Paul was the opposite of the pompous Experts in the Law that Jesus warned about in Mark 12:38-40. Jesus said they like walking around in long robes, elaborate greetings, the best seats, and the places of honor. They put themselves above the common people. Paul did the opposite and “made himself a servant unto all” (1 Cor 9:19).

### **Assignment**

- Please memorize 1 Corinthians 9:19.

In first Corinthians 9:19, for though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself serving to all that I might gain the more. Now Paul meant that he was an apostle, he was an intellect, and he was high, and he

was the one that God had chosen, for the Gentile ministry in particular, yet I have made myself servant onto all that I might gain the more. Listen until you are a servant you will never gain. Until you are a servant you will never gain, until you are willing to take the most humble seat you will never gain. Until you are willing to say I am a nobody you will never gain. And to the Jews he became as a Jew. Now that doesn't mean that he compromised, it just meant that he was kind and nice and he didn't go in popping his mouth off all the time. He didn't have a big mouth wherever he went. To the Jews he became a Jew, that I might gain the Jews. In other words he was kind, he didn't compromise he didn't put himself in a bad position, but he was a kind sweet person. He didn't go to his relatives, and the first thing they said that wasn't right, he didn't pounce all over them and tell all the things that he knows, and stomp out. He was kind until he had to absolutely compromise, he became whatever. To them that are under the law, as under the law that I might gain them that are under the law. To them that are without the law, as without the law. Now that doesn't mean he went and became a robber and started going around robbing banks okay. There are some people that teach that. No, what he is saying is that wherever he was he did not put up any ethnic prejudices that would offend those people so that he could gain them. You know, some of the issues is not tearing down someone's church, the issue is winning them to Christ. Being not without the law to God, but under the law to Christ that I might gain them that are without the law. To the weak became I weak. If Paul went, and let's say he went in an area of disturbed people, educationally slow people you might say, then he would put it in whatever terms and he would get down on their level, that I might gain the weak. I am made all things to all men that I might by all means save some. He wanted to save people and this I do for the gospel's sake that I might be a partaker thereof with you. He wanted to save people. This was his job, to go out and save people. He went out there, and listen we should go out there to win people to Christ.

#### **QUESTION 14**

Please write 1 Corinthians 9:19 from memory.

#### **QUESTION 15**

According to Paul in 1 Corinthians 9:19 the secret to gaining converts was to make himself a \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **QUESTION 16**

To show his kindness unto others, Paul even compromised. *True or False?* Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **QUESTION 17**

Please briefly explain what other people Paul became like and why according to 1 Corinthians 9:20-23.

---

## Topic 6: How to Study God's Word

"Oh how I love thy law. It is my meditation all the day" (Ps 119:97). There are many ways to learn God's law. The psalmist spoke of meditating in it. It can also be memorized, publicly read, examined in detail, and applied. All of these approaches are valuable and they complement each other.

Now how are you going to learn the Bible? Study the Bible. How do you study it? Well, start reading it and let it sink in a little bit. Take notes on it. If you don't understand something make a note of it and go back to it later. Have a notebook. You can take these notes, and actually put them in a notebook, and you could make notes on them, you could study them and when someone asks you a question you could say, you know we covered that, it was 3 or 4 Sundays ago. And you could open up and you could see it, and you could study it, and answer their question. Read with the intention of remembering. You know when you read it if you don't meditate on it. Now meditation, and I didn't get into it this morning, but meditation literally is, and it's about expression, but it's like the cow chewing its cud. It is thinking over and over again of the word of God. Listen when you read the word of God you think about it. You know what your thoughts should be? I know what my thoughts are every day. You know what my thoughts are on Monday? My supposed day off? You know what my thoughts are on Monday? Church. That's all my thoughts or period listen we don't have any other thoughts. Well you say, well that's your job. While, you have to do your job, it's important to do your job, and you should do your job, but your main thoughts should be how do I when someone to Christ today. Some of the illustrations I get, I read most of Monday all day, and that's where I get illustrations. And it helps. Stay in the Bible, reading your Bible. In all these things, anyway, listen, I could go on, you know, it is sort of nice, to know who wrote it to whom it was written, and what general topic is discussed, what does it not say, what does it say. Eliminate the meanings that aren't clear. Compare scripture with the scripture. If you compare scripture with scripture, you will never go wrong. No one scripture, the Bible tells us, is of any private interpretation. Listen, we don't know, none of us know how long we've got. None of us know how long we've got. Listen we better make our life count. You better not have your life wrapped up all in something that doesn't count.

### QUESTION 18

When you read the Bible and don't understand something you should stop reading and find your answer before going on. *True or False?* Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

### QUESTION 19

When you read the Bible it will help you learn it if you read with the intent to remember it. *True or False?* Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

### QUESTION 21

Which of the following was given as an illustration of meditating on God's word?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Like a cow chewing its cud.
- B. Like a dog chewing on a bone.
- C. Like a pig wallowing in mud.
- D. Like an eagle searching for a nesting place.

### QUESTION 22

Other passages of Scripture can help us interpret difficult passages. *True or False?*

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

## Lesson 10 Answers to Questions

**QUESTION 1:** *Your answer should be similar to the following:*

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

**QUESTION 2**

<i>Reference</i>	<i>Teaching</i>
Psalm 138:2	God has magnified His word above all of His name.
Romans 10:17	Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God.
2 Timothy 3:15	From infancy you have known the scriptures which give salvation.

**QUESTION 3:** Tool [It is very important that you be able to use that tool and use it wisely.]

**QUESTION 4:** True [Those who desire to be fruitful soul winners should be ready to give an answer to every man.]

**QUESTION 5:** *Your answer should be similar to the following:*

“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.”

**QUESTION 6**

B. Hebrews 4:12 [The power is in the word of God.]

**QUESTION 7:** False

**QUESTION 8**

B. Demonstrations of power

C. Demonstrations of the Spirit

**QUESTION 9:** True [As we grow in Christ and in holiness we will have more power with God’s word.]

**QUESTION 10:** *Your answer should be similar to the following:*

“But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtlety, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.”

**QUESTION 11:** False [Colossians 2:8: “Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.”]

**QUESTION 12:** False [Those people we think are so polished, if given a clear gospel, you would be surprised what effect we might have.]

**QUESTION 13:** True [Adjust your message to the person’s background, experience, and areas of special interest.]

**QUESTION 14:** *Your answer should be similar to the following:*

“For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.”

**QUESTION 15:** *Your answer should be one of the following:*

Servant, Slave [Until you are a servant, you will never gain.]

**QUESTION 16:** False [Kindness is very important but Paul did not compromise or become a pushover.]

**QUESTION 17:** *Your answer should be similar to the following:*

He became like those without the law, those under the law, like Jews, like the weak and like all things to all men. He did this that he might by all means save some.

**QUESTION 18:** False [Take notes on it and go back to it later. A notebook is an important part of personal Bible study.]

**QUESTION 19:** True [Setting that intent in your mind actually helps you to remember.]

**QUESTION 21**

A. Like a cow chewing its cud. [Meditation is thinking over and over on smaller portions of the Word of God.]

**QUESTION 22:** True [Eliminate the meanings that are not clear by comparing Scripture with Scripture.]