



Sunday January 13, 2019
God's Word Works
Part 1 : A Carrier of God's Power

We would like to begin this year by bringing our attention back to God's Word, the Bible. We would like to remind us as well as encourage us to read the Word of God, meditate in the Word of God and unleash (or experience) the power of God released in us through His Word.

There are several truths concerning God's Word that we are familiar with:

God's Word is truth (John 17:17). It is impossible for God to lie.

God's Word (the written Scriptures) is God breathed or God inspired (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

There are two truths we wish to remind us of today:

- 1, God works by His Word
- 2, God's Word carries God's power

When God wishes (intends) to DO something - He speaks.

He releases His Word.

The Word God speaks carries both the design (purpose, intent) and power to fulfilled.

Consider these Scriptures, most of which are familiar to us.

Genesis 1:1-3

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

2 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

3 Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.

Subsequent to this we have the phrase "The God said" being repeated another 8 times in this very first chapter.

The emphasis here is that whatever God did, He spoke it into the way He desired it to be.

Psalm 33:6,9

6 By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.

9 For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.

The vast expanse of this universe and all the celestial bodies were brought into being by the word of the LORD (Yahweh or Jehovah). And this has never stopped being created because from what we know the universe is continuously expanding.

Psalm 107:20

He sent His word and healed them, And delivered them from their destructions.



When God wanted to heal and deliver His people - He sent His Word and the Word administered the healing and deliverance they needed.

This is one of the ways how God works. He works by His Word.
So today God will do the same thing. He will send His Word to you and that Word has the power to heal you and deliver you completely.

Isaiah 55:10-11

**10 "For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, But water the earth, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the eater,
11 So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.**

Just like the rain that causes the earth to produce, God says that His Word will produce.
God's Word will accomplish what God pleases.
God's Word will prosper in the thing for which God sent it.

Isaiah 55:11 (Easy to Read Version) **In the same way, my words leave my mouth, and they don't come back without results. My words make the things happen that I want to happen. They succeed in doing what I send them to do.**

Hebrews 11:3

By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

The Word of God was the 'heavenly material' out of which all the natural visible world was formed.
So everything in the natural world is subject to the Word of God.
Everything in the natural world will respond to the Word of God.

Hebrews 1:3

who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

Everything is being upheld, sustained, regulated, kept in place by the word of His power.

power Greek 'dunamis' = force, miraculous power

God's Word and God's power are inseparable.
God's force or supernatural power is exerted, released through His Word.



Hebrews 4:12

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.

powerful Greek 'energes' = active, operative, effective, powerful

God's Word is active, operative and effective.

It penetrates into the deep parts of our person (or personality)

It judges the thoughts and motives of our hearts.

So we reviewed all of these Scriptures to bring home to us these two truths, as we stated at the very beginning:

- 1, God works by His Word
- 2, God's Word carries God's power

All of this is true not just for the heavens and the earth - but it applies for us as believers. God works in us by His Word, and His Word releases His power in us.

So if you want to have God work in your life - one very important thing we must do is to open up our hearts and minds to His Word. We must **RECEIVE** His Word into our lives, that is our hearts and minds.

1 Thessalonians 2:13

For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.

When we receive the word of God for what it really is - then the word of God works in us mightily.

It releases its power in our lives.

There is power in the Word to heal, deliver, to liberate, to make whole, to prosper, to accomplish everything God is pleased in. This power is in the Word.

As we progress in this series, we will learn how to receive the Word so that the power in the Word can produce in our lives.

MINISTRY TIME
SALVATION CALL



LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Sunday January 13, 2019
God's Word Works
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This is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation

To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at apcwo.org/sermons . Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word

Read the following Scripture passages: *Psalm 33:6,9; Psalm 107:20; Isaiah 55:10-11; 1 Thessalonians 2:13*

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together

Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

- 1) *How is your perspective of God's Word (the Bible) enhanced, know that God works by His Word and His Word carries His power?*
- 2) *Can you think of any natural analogies (examples) that illustrate God's Word being a carrier of God's power (e.g. photons in physics, etc.)*
- 3) *What practical steps will you take (or maintain) to ensure that you are receiving His Word into your heart and mind, regularly?*



If time permits, each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key learning and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

1, families to be protected and strengthened

2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.

3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for God's hand to guide us through the land search and acquisition process, and for finances to be more than enough to get this project done.

Close by thanking God together.