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The Power of the Word

People have often asked me how I memorize scripture for my study, and usually they are shocked at my answer. I don't focus on memorizing verses as much as placing the Word of God into my spirit. I try to explain to them that I have never had a photographic mind, and I have always had a difficult time simply putting anything to memory. I used to wish that I had the naturally ability to read something a few times and then recall it quickly, but unfortunately it takes much more work for me to memorize God's Word.

When I was young and had just begun to focus my life on the things of God, I had a good friend who was radically saved. We would go out witnessing together and spend much of our time in church together. He would always challenge me to scripture challenges, and I'm sure it's because he knew he could beat me. He would start by quoting a scripture, then it would be my turn next, and we would go back and forth until usually I would run out. I was always jealous that he had such an amazing ability to remember hundreds of scriptures, but I never told him that because he would probably quote some scripture on jealousy for me. In fact, I always felt less spiritual than him because of this, and even though I would spend hours in the Word of God, I could never win his game.

In the natural I see things as pictures more than I do with words, while my competitive friend was the opposite, and he would easily see words in his natural mind which made it easier to quote what he read. I was always at a disadvantage because of the way I saw things from scripture, and at how much more work it took to remember things. However, when I saw that the power of scripture lies within the spirit man, and not the natural man, then I had hope for myself because I realized that memorizing a verse is not the same as placing that verse deep into my heart. Have you ever known people who intellectually know the Bible, yet they still don't know God? Now don't get me wrong, placing verses to memory is an incredible tool on the path of placing that Word into our spirit, but it is not the finish line. The ultimate goal is for us to be transformed by the Word.

What if you had a friend that was about to have an emergency surgery, and you asked the older surgeon what school he went to, and his answer was that he didn't attend school but learned it "by hands on" in the army during the war by an older surgeon who taught him the skills? He's successfully helped a thousand patients with the same condition as your friend. Now there was a young surgeon fresh out of school with a big degree of accomplishments of gaining knowledge. He was also available to help your friend but he had never actually practiced the surgery. The chances are that you would choose the surgeon who had experience over only knowledge.

Many Christians only learn the Word at the level of their natural mind and never let it go deeper into their spirit. They live in a place of knowledge of God, without ever truly experiencing the power of the Words

of God, as they transform us into who He made us. God began to help to me to understand that the real power of the Word of God is much deeper than repeating what the Bible says, but lies in a place of our spirit man where we allow the Truth within the Word of God to transform us. It says in 1 Corinthians 2:13-14, "*These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*"

When God speaks to us it is from Spirit to spirit that He communicates and teaches us. That means that the spiritual part of who I am is where I really know who God is. Each of us are born different in this natural world, with one person more capable at some things than another. However, in the family of God we are all born with the same quality of spirit that is unlimited in its ability to truly and deeply know and understand God.

I may not have been gifted with a natural mind that can easily recall scripture, but every scripture that I have ever read and every verse I ever spoke, my spiritual mind remembers perfectly. In the natural I was blessed to be able to visualize the scripture in pictures just as my friend was blessed to be able to memorize scripture so easily, but for all of us, it is our spirit man that both God and His Word ministers to.

This is where we have hope for real change in our life; the Word is power. «SALUTATION», there is no battle that you cannot overcome. You can have God speaking hope from the inside of you, with His Word speaking from the outside, and your circumstances are being attacked from both sides.

John 6:63 says, "*It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.*" It's easy to read past this verse and not see the emphasis that He places on the spirit here. The target of God's Word is not only your natural mind, but it is your spirit, and once we allow it to transform us, that is when victory comes. This means that you are not limited in your potential with God, and there is Power that already lies within you right now to overcome every battle you may be facing. As children of God there is nothing that is impossible!!!

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