

## **Pre-Encounter Class 004 – The Power of the Word**

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Overview:

*The point of this lesson is for the participant to grasp the power of the Word of God and the role it will play in their Encounter weekend, as well as their personal freedom and Christian walk.*

*Matthew 7:24-27 – “Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. Through the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and winds beat against that house, it won’t collapse because it is built on bedrock. But anyone who hears my teaching and ignores it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand. When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash.”*

We see that hearing the Word of God and obeying it is the \_\_\_\_\_ of our Christian lives.

The Bible:

- 1) Is God (John 1:1)
- 2) Contains God’s Power (2 Timothy 3:16)
- 3) It is entirely inspired by God (2 Peter 1:20-21)
- 4) Truth (John 17:17)
- 5) Reveals God’s divine laws and principles to us

Some people claim the Bible has been changed but...

- When the Bible was first printed (1495) there were over 2000 manuscripts in the hands of scholars (none were complete but they all overlapped).
- Today there are over 4,500 manuscripts of the New Testament that are in complete agreement – they were all written by hand.
- Today, scholars require only 10-20 manuscripts to consider something legitimate – yet the Bible has \_\_\_\_\_.

### **The Power of the Word**

*Genesis 1:3 – Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.*

God’s creative power is contained in His word.

- If you want God’s power in your life it is going to come through his \_\_\_\_\_.

*1 Peter 1:23 – For you have been born again, but not to a life that will quickly end. Your new life will last forever because it comes from the eternal, living word of God.*

1 Peter 1:23 (Amplified Bible) <sup>23</sup>You have been regenerated (born again), not from a mortal origin (seed, sperm), but from one that is immortal by the ever living and lasting Word of God.

The Word of God is incorruptible seed – or supernatural seed.

- It contains the spiritual power to produce what it says.
- It has to be \_\_\_\_\_ in the soil of your heart.

- It is planted by hearing it, \_\_\_\_\_ about it, \_\_\_\_\_ it, \_\_\_\_\_ it.

When we talk about freedom, we need God's power – and his power comes through his Word.

### **The Word of God = Truth**

*2 Corinthians 10:4,5 – We use God's mighty weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments. We destroy every proud argument that keeps people from knowing God.*

Strongholds – are fortresses of thought or strongly entrenched \_\_\_\_\_ that we have.

When we believe a lie it opens the door for the power of the devil in our lives.

- Insecurity = "I believe that I'm not valuable"
- Fear = "I don't believe in God's ability to protect me"

*John 8:32 - And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you \_\_\_\_\_.*

The truth of the Word of God will set us free from the power of lies that we have believed.

- We have to reject the lies and believe the Word.
- At first we may not feel it – but we need to continue to take a stand on the Word.

Questions: What are some of the lies that you recognize that you have believed? What truth does the word of God speak regarding this?

As you go through the final week of preparation for the Encounter Weekend – spend a lot of time focusing on the truth of God's word!

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Homework:

- This week you need to fast (type to be determined in week before lesson)
- You also need to take time each day to pray, meditate on the scriptures you've been given each week and focus on God.