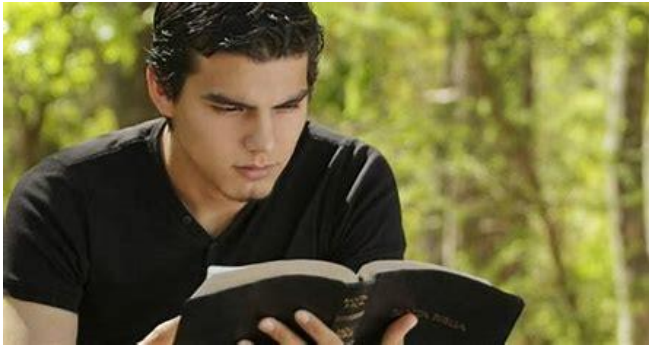


# CHURCH OF HOPE 17 WEEK EVANGELISM AND MINISTRY TRAINING COURSE



**STUDY GUIDE: WEEK TWO (POWERPOINTS)**

**TOPIC TWO: THE IMPORTANCE OF BUILDING OUR  
LIFE ON THE WORD OF GOD**



- **INTRODUCTION TO WEEK TWO:**

**The topic for week two of the 17 week Evangelism and Ministry Training Course is the importance of building our lives on the word of God.** These PowerPoint notes are derived from the study guide for week two of this course which can be downloaded from the following page on the Church of Hope website: [www.coh.org.au/ministry\\_course](http://www.coh.org.au/ministry_course)

- The other main teaching to accompany this study guide is again from our Pastors Workshop Guidelines and Teachings Manual (which can be downloaded from our website) and is called, “Building your life on the Word of God”.

- We will begin by emphasising the importance of all Christians feeding themselves spiritually with the Word of God on a regular basis.



- For pastors and leaders who have been entrusted with the wonderful responsibility of nurturing and equipping other believers, **(Acts 20:28) (Ephesians 4:11-16)** being diligent in the study of the Word of God is crucial if we are to be faithful in feeding those who have been entrusted to our care with the Word of God.

- The Lord said to Peter when commissioning him, “Feed My lambs”, (*John 21:15*) “Tend My Sheep”, (*John 21:16*) and “Feed My sheep.” (*John 21:17*)
- Spending much time with the Lord and in His Word empowers a pastor to be more effective in the preaching of the word of God.



- Every Believer has an important ministry from God and we all need one another.



**The Apostle Paul wrote, “For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.” (Ephesians 2:10)**

- For believers ministering in the secular world, (which has so many ungodly influences), continually feeding on the word of God both at church and at home is vital if they are to continually remain salt and light in their workplaces and spheres of influence. ***(Matthew 5:13-16)***

- As pastors we need to be encouraging those in our church fellowships to build their lives on the firm foundation of the Word of God, **(Matthew 7:24-27)** so that they can remain strong in their walk with the Lord and be prosperous and have good success. **(Joshua 1:8)**



**The LORD said to Joshua,** “This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.” **(Joshua 1:8)**

**The Apostle Paul wrote, “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17)**



- As pastors and leaders have the responsibility (and accountability – ***James 3:1***) for overseeing the spiritual walk of many other believers, they are often under greater attack than other Christians as the enemy, (the Devil) knows that if he can smite the Shepherd he can scatter the sheep
- With this in mind it is crucial that all Christians and especially those in leadership roles place a great importance on personally feeding much on the Word of God





**The Apostle Paul wrote,**

**“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom,**  
teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns  
and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the  
Lord.” **(Colossians 3:16)**



- **Psalm 119 also contains meditations on the excellencies of the word of God**

- As Pastors and leaders we need to allow the Word of God to change us, so that we can model what it is to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. ***(1 Peter 5:1-4)***



- Jesus Himself said, “A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master.” ***(Matthew 10:24)***
- For some people we may be the only bible that they read

## **The Apostle Paul wrote to the young pastor Timothy,**

“Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.” **(1 Timothy 4:12-16)**



- It is so important that we build our life on the Word of God so that we:



- i. Will be effective in the ministry that God has called us to, whether in the five fold ministry or secular world,
- ii. That we will shine out as believers in this world and be salt and light in this world (***Matthew 5:13-16***), and
- iii. That we will remain strong in our walk with the Lord. (***Matthew 24:12-13***) Like the Apostle Paul we want to finish our walk with the Lord strongly (***2 Timothy 4:7***)

**Towards the end of his time here on earth the Apostle Paul wrote,**

**“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.” (2 Timothy 4:7-8)**



- **Building our life on the Word of God is a key to being productive and fruitful in our walk with the Lord.**

**The Apostle Paul wrote, “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” (2 Timothy 2:15)**



- **Studying the word of God will be a big part of each topic in this course. We will also be doing a thorough reading of the bible when we go through the foundations of our faith a little later in this course.**

## We will now look at a number of things to consider and discuss in relation to building our life on the Word of God

### 1) The importance of making time to spend in the Word of God (Joshua 1:8)

- There is life in the Word of God. (*Hebrews 4:12*)
- Revelation from God's Word comes in isolation. The enemy will try and keep us too busy to spend time in the Word. The bible is God's love letter to us
- We must simply make time on a regular basis to meditate upon God's word



## 2) The importance of being consistent in our reading of the Word of God



- Daily reading something from the Word of God is better than reading for two hours one day and then nothing for a week.
- Daily God will give us direction and encouragement through His Word. **(Psalm 119:105)**
- Just as one meal a week is not sufficient to keep us physically strong, (each day we need something to eat) So too, daily we need to be built up in our spirit by **MEDITATING** on the Word of God, even if on some busy days it is only one or two key Scriptures **(Psalm 1:1-3)**



**In the book of Psalms we read,**

“Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.” (**Psalm 1:1-3**)



### 3) Praying for God to direct your reading of the Word

- We need to have an expectation that God will speak to us every time we open the Word of God
- God will often give us a word of encouragement through His Word as the Holy Spirit highlights a passage of Scripture that is relevant to us. A Rhema word in season (***Proverbs 15:23***)



**In the book of Proverbs we read,**

**“A man has joy by the answer of his mouth, and a word spoken in due season, how good it is!” (**Proverbs 15:23**)**

## 4) The importance of being both a hearer and DOER of the Word



- The Bible is full of Wisdom.
- We can build our life on God's unchanging word.  
*(Psalm 119:89)*
- Being a doer of the Word gives us great stability during our trials and helps us to make right choices in life.
- Obedience to God's Word is a key to being blessed by God  
*(Luke 11:28)*

**Jesus Himself said,** “Therefore, whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the **rock**; and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.



But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand; and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.” (**Matthew 7:24-27**)

## 5) There is power in the spoken Word



**The Apostle Paul wrote, “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.” (*Romans 10:17*)**

- We need to speak God’s promises over our life and future to create a faith filled atmosphere in our churches, homes and workplaces.
- Attaching Scriptural promises to our prayers helps us to believe as we pray (*Mark 11:24*) for the answers to our prayers.

**Jesus Himself said,**

“Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.”  
**(Mark 11:24)**



**The Apostle Paul wrote,**

“For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.” **(2 Corinthians 1:20)**

6) The importance of *not* reading and interpreting individual scriptures *in isolation*, but rather in the context of the entire bible teachings and the passage of Scripture from which they come



- For example in the book of James we read, “But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead.” **(James 2:20)**
- This Scripture must however be read in light of what other Scriptures in the bible also say. i.e. **(Ephesians 2:8-10)** **(John 3:16)** and **(Philippians 3:9)**

- When reading all these Scriptures together we see clearly that it is not our works that save us, for by Grace are we saved through faith and that not of ourselves, it is the gift of God, but our good works show the genuineness of the faith that we profess - that our faith is alive and real.





## 7) The importance of preaching the Word of God in our sermons and messages



**The Apostle Paul wrote,** “I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His Kingdom: \*Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.” **(2 Timothy 4:1-2)**

***In the book of Isaiah we read,*** “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.” **(Isaiah 55:11)**

## 8) Nothing that we believe the Holy Spirit is speaking to us will ever contradict God's Word



- The Bible is a good check and balance for us when we are praying and seeking the Lord for wisdom and guidance in life as all Scripture is given by inspiration of God (2 Timothy 3:16)

**In the book of James we read, “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.” (James 1:5)**

**Jesus Himself also said,**

**“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.” (John 14:26)**



**9) We must always minister the Word of God in truth and love and in the power of the Holy Spirit**

**The Apostle Paul wrote, “that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head-Christ-“  
**(Ephesians 4:14-15)****



**The Apostle Paul also wrote,**

“I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.” **(1 Corinthians 2:3-5)**



## 10) Spending time in parts of the Word of God that relate to areas in our life in which we have need of growth

- Renewing our mind with the Word of God helps us to develop Kingdom attitudes (**Romans 12:2**) and to grow in Christlike Character



- There are Scriptures in the word of God that can help us to gain victory in every area of our life

**The Apostle Paul wrote,**

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” **(Romans 12:2)**

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

**(2 Timothy 3:16-17)**



# 11) WE NEED TO BUILD OUR LIFE BASED ON WHAT GOD SAYS ABOUT OUR FUTURE IN HIS WORD



**The Apostle Paul wrote, “Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,” (Ephesians 3:20)**

**The LORD said to the prophet Jeremiah, “Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.” (Jeremiah 33:3)**



**Jesus Himself said,**

“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. **If you ask anything in My name, I WILL DO IT.**” (John 14:12-14)



- Studying and meditating on the Word of God helps us to realise our full potential in life.
- When we look at God's faithfulness in the past such as the Red Sea parting for the Children of Israel to make a way of escape, Joseph's promotion from the prison to the palace in one day and God protecting Daniel in the lion's den, and when we look at all of God's many promises for all believers in His Word, we can confidently step out by faith into the future that God has planned for our life.



***“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.”***  
***(Hebrews 13:8) AND***

## **12) Having a good study bible such as the “New Spirit Filled Life Bible” helps in the reading of the Word of God**

- Having a good study bible helps us to grow more quickly in our faith. The word studies and scripture notes in a study bible help to explain the verses in the bible in the context of the entire Scriptures. This is very important particularly for new Christians



- **A good Bible reading plan or daily devotional can also help us to be more disciplined in reading the Word of God**



## SOME QUESTIONS FOR SELF EVALUATION

- i. Do I have the Word of God open when I am praying and seeking God for answers and direction. Do I consistently receive direction through God's Word
- ii. Do I spend enough time in the Word of God on a regular basis (Do I give myself a day off each week to soak in God's Word where I allow the Lord to minister to me through His Word.)
- iii. Do I meditate on the Word of God in such a way that the Word goes from my head to my heart and brings transformation to my life

- iv. Do I (for pastors) seek the Lord each week for a Word in Season for my church as I prepare my Messages
- v. Do we (for pastors) have studies in place at our church so that all believers have the opportunity of growing in their faith and knowledge of the Word of God, and
- vi. Do I have a commitment to always being both a hearer and doer of the Word in every area of my life

