

“WEEKLY WISDOM”  
By Pastor Darryl Baker

For The Week of 07.06.10

"HOW GOD'S WORD WORKS - PART #5"

Mark 4:20 But these are the ones sown on good ground, those who hear the word, accept *it*, and bear fruit: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred."

This week we will wrap up this series on "How God's Word Works". If you want to get even further insight into this teaching go to our "messages" page of our website and download this teaching in it's entirety. We have already talked about the importance of the sower in our life, the seed of God's Word, and we have also looked at the three types of soil condition that Jesus said would produce no fruit. This week we are going to talk about being "good ground" which very clearly stated in this parable will produce results. That is what every believer should be seeing in their life, results from God's Word.

Our foundation verse for this series above is the description in Mark's account of this "good ground" heart condition that sees results from the Word of God. I want to first address the issue of some seeing thirtyfold, sixty, and some a hundred fold return. Realize like anything in life the more you do something the better you understand how it is done. For example we have recently taken on the venture of going on local television in our area. The responsibility to produce the opening and closing video is something that I have had to work on. I purchased software that was designed to do this. When I first began I got some results, but not as good as I wanted them to be. The more I worked with the program the better results I got until I was finally able to produce what I was wanting.

This is true when it comes to learning how to put God's Word to work in your life. The more you learn how to do so, the better you get at learning what makes God's Word work, and what all is involved in doing so. Therefore the more you do learn about God's Word and putting it to work in your life the more your results are going to increase. Just like learning anything in life if I would have gotten frustrated with the initial results I was getting trying to create these professional clips for our broadcast, then I would have given up. This unfortunately happens to many believers. Because they either don't get instant results, which is not the primary way God's Word works, or because they don't get all the results that are initially believing for they give up on the Word. But if you are not seeing results with the Word of God, remember it's not a problem with the Word.

Mark's account tells us that those who have the Word of God sown on good ground are those who hear the Word, and they accept it. This word accept means to take as one's own. This is what faith does. Faith when sown through the Word of God does not see God's Word as something that is only for someone else, nor does it see God's Word as something that one day will be for them, they take it as already theirs. That is what happens when God's Word is sown in good ground. So how does one become good ground? Quite simple actually. If you will keep your heart from being wayside soil, stony ground, or thorny ground your heart will be good ground. But once that seed is planted there are some things that yet need to be done for you to see God's Word grow up and produce results in your life.

1 Cor. 3:6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God [all the while] was making it grow *and* [He] gave the increase.

Once a seed is planted in good ground what is one of the primary things that seed needs to grow? Time is one thing but we all know it takes water to make a seed grow. Notice that the apostle Paul here makes the statement that he had planted God's Word in the life of the Corinthians, but then Apollos who came after Paul had watered that seed. One thing that we need to realize is that even if we have good ground for the seed, that seed is going to need to be watered. There are two primary ways that we can water the seed of God's Word. The first is found in this verse of scripture. Apollos came along preaching the same things that Paul was preaching. You see just because you hear something once does not mean that you don't need to hear it again and again.

Heb. 2:1 Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away.

Phil. 3:1 FOR THE rest, my brethren, delight yourselves in the Lord *and* continue to rejoice that you are in Him. To keep writing to you [over and over] of the same things is not irksome to me, and it is [a precaution] for your safety.

In Hebrews we are exhorted that we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have "heard", lest we drift away from them. We are not told to give heed, but more earnest heed to what we have heard. What you have heard before and then sit in church and hear again if you are not a little more diligent to listen with your heart and your full attention you won't get the proper water on the seed that has already been planted. Often people tend to not pay as close attention to something they have heard preached over and over. But this is why the expression is used here to give the "more earnest heed" to what you "have heard".

This is also why Paul who could not always go back to the churches he established as often as he would have liked to states here in Philippians that to write the same things to them over and over is a precaution for

their safety. John Osteen who was the founder of Lakewood Church even said that the power of pastoring is repetition. Sure we should be speaking all of what God's Word tells us we should know as believers. But the danger of many is trying to come up with something no one else has taught before. If you look at the teachings of Jesus He was simple and to the point. If the ministers who are called by God will just stick with what Jesus taught we will do a great service to the church.

So be careful that you don't get tired of hearing the things of God again and again. The manna in the wilderness was still manna each day, but it was fresh. That is what a good minister of the Word of God will bring you. They are not going to come up with their own message, but will stick to the words of Christ and with the help of the Holy Spirit they will make it fresh each time.

Psa. 1:2 But his delight *and* desire are in the law of the Lord, and on His law (the precepts, the instructions, the teachings of God) he habitually meditates (ponders and studies) by day and by night.

Psa. 1:3 And he shall be like a tree firmly planted [and tended] by the streams of water, ready to bring forth its fruit in its season; its leaf also shall not fade *or* wither; and everything he does shall prosper [and come to maturity].

The second most significant way we water the seed of God's Word that is planted in good ground is by meditating on the Word of God. As stated here that means to ponder and study. To ponder means you speak it, think it, and consider the Word of God. You should also take time to further dig into God's Word through study. You need to learn how to use some of the basic tools available so that you can go beyond just a surface level understanding of the Bible and get rooted in God's Word. As you do your understanding of that Word will increase. The more it does the more you water that seed that is already in your heart.

Prov. 4:23 Guard your heart more than anything else, because the source of your life flows from it.

Last but not least, guard your heart more than you guard anything else in your life. The source of life that flows from your heart spoken of here is this process that God has given to us to take words, preferably His Word, and plant them in your heart. Once you do and there is nothing there to stop that Word from growing it will produce results in you life. So it is with words that don't come from God. This is why it is so important to guard your heart to the best of your ability. You do so by what you see with your eyes, what you listen to with your ears, and what you think about in your thought life. The more you guard your heart from bad seed the more you will see good results from the Word of God.

So make sure you have a sower that God wants sowing into your life. When you do find that sower you are going to have the opportunity to

begin to plant your inheritance harvest in your heart. Don't allow your heart to become hardened to God through sin, or by focusing your attention on other things. Keep the rocks out of your garden. Get rooted in your relationship with Christ and don't allow the traditions of man, nor the principles of the world to govern your life. Finally don't allow the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, nor the desires for other things to enter into your life and choke out the Word.

Keep your heart as good ground, and don't get tired of hearing the things that Jesus taught again and again. Keep meditating on God's Word and watering that seed. One thing is for sure, when you have the seed of God's Word and good ground to plant it in a harvest will come forth and you will begin to walk in more of the inheritance that is already yours.

See You Again Next Week For More  
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**MAY GOD'S VERY BEST BE YOURS!**  
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