

**Faith Christian Fellowship of Tucson**  
**Real Disciples Guide**  
**4: You Need the Word**

“I don’t care what the Bible says!” That was the shout of a minister I was counseling. The condition of his life made it clear that he didn’t care much for the Scripture. He was a mess. The great reality is this: it is impossible to live a successful Christian life without the Word of God, which is conveniently stored for you in the 66 books of the Bible. It is your primary source of spiritual strength, your spirit food, and your source of **faith**. You can’t have faith without it. You will never grow as a Christian without opening your Bible. It is impossible.

**Three Big Ideas to Remember:**

1. **The Bible is God speaking to you.** Paul said it was “inspired by God.” That means that God breathed every word. Peter said it was given by the Holy Spirit to men, and is a sure word to us. We can depend on the Scriptures more than the opinion or experience of any person, including ourselves. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 / 2 Peter 1:16-21 / John 6:63
2. **You need the Word to live the Christian life.**
  - a. You need it to grow up spiritually. 1 Peter 2:2 / 1 Cor 3:1-3.
  - b. You need it to have faith. You live by faith, and faith comes from the Word. Romans 10:17 / 1:17 / 2 Corinthians 5:7
  - c. You need it to know what God has given you. It opens the treasure chest of grace. Acts 20:32 / Romans 4:16 / 1 Corinthians 2:12
  - d. You need it to fight the enemy. It is your indispensable weapon in the battle. Ephesians 6:17 / Matthew 4:4 / James 4:7
3. **You are responsible to go get it.** You desire the Word in order to grow. The Berean church typifies a winning attitude – passionately searching the Word and listening to the apostles. 1 Peter 2:2 / Acts 17:11. You can ingest the Word in three ways:
  - a. Preaching/teaching. God put ministries in the church to mature you. Ephesians 4:11-16 / 1 Thessalonians 3:10 / Romans 1:9-12 / 15:29-33
  - b. Studying for yourself. You are a new creation with a new commandment. Feed on the New Testament. The Spirit of God will teach you. 2 Timothy 2:15 / Ephesians 1:15-19 / 1 Corinthians 2:12. Expect it.
  - c. Meditating. Hold the Scripture in your mind. Say it aloud to yourself. Ask the Lord to reveal ways to be a doer of the Word you learn. Psalm 1:1-3. James 1:21-25 / Joshua 1:7-8.

**Somebody Said:** Those of you who can read I must beg you to read the Bible, and whenever you can get time, study the Bible, and if you can get no other time, spare some of your time from sleep, and learn what the mind and will of God is. Jupiter Hammon

**Here’s the Point:** You have been born again, now you must grow up as a Christian. The Bible contains the words of God designed to strengthen your faith, show you who God is, and show you who you are. You can resist temptation by speaking the Word of God. It is impossible to live a successful Christian life without regularly feeding on the Bible.

**Action Steps:** Find a Bible you can read and keep it near you. Read a chapter of the New Testament every day. If a verse speaks to you, look up other verses on the same subject. Ask yourself “how can I apply this concept to my life today?” Write your verse on a card and carry it with you during the day, taking time to read it every chance you get. Now, find a church that teaches straight from the Bible and go listen.