

BIBLE STUDY NOTES

WHY WE RESIST THE WORD

Objective

We are called to a fruitful life through God's Word. In this Bible study we will highlight, understand and deal with some of the reasons why we resist God's Word.

Introduction

The Bible says in Hebrews 11:3 that the World was framed by the Word. We can create the framework for the world we want to experience in any season of our lives by the Word of God.

For every season of your life there ought to be words that are framing your world.

What words are framing your year? What words do you need to create the year you desire to see?

At Radiant City London, we are framing our world with this scripture:

Deuteronomy 11:11

but the land which you cross over to possess is a land of hills and valleys, which drinks water from the rain of heaven,

God is directing our steps and the place that He is taking us to, the life He is calling us into is a life that is totally dependent on heaven's supply of water.

In the scripture, water is also a type and shadow of the Word of God.

- Water cleanses like the Word Ephesians 5, John 17:17, Exodus 30:17-21
- God likens His Word to the water from the rain. Isaiah 55:10

So, when God is sending you water from the rain, He is sending us the Word of God from heaven.

One of the greatest evidences of God's love for us is that he sends us His Word! He causes the rain to fall on the righteous and the unrighteous.

Everyone gets the Word because God's love for all of us. But unfortunately, not everyone receives the Word in spite of God's love for us.

Unfortunately, it is not just unbelievers who do not receive the Word of God. It is the testimony of the scripture that the children of Israel often resisted His Word. That is no different with us today.

Imagine the rain falling, what happens is that the water runs on the surface of the earth until it finds a patch of soil that will drink that water!

And when the soil takes in the water, it knows what to do in the soil to bring forth fruit!

But the question is this; how much are you drinking?

Just like we cannot live a healthy life without water, we cannot live a healthy spiritual life without the Water of the Word. We will be lethargic, lukewarm and fruitless without the Word!

Reasons why we resist the Word

Battle weariness:

Sometimes we don't take in the word because we are weary...or tired. It's not because you don't believe, but you're tired. Look at the language Paul uses to describe the walk of faith, which is the daily life of every believer.

1 Timothy 1:18

This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare,

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1 Timothy 6:12 (NKJV)

12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

Faith is a fight! The fight and the struggle of a believer is believing. Because every declaration of faith will be severely opposed.

Every prophetic word spoken over you releases opposition! And so, a true believer is always in a warfare of believing! You were born again in a fight of faith. You got here in a fight of faith! And it will take a fight of faith to get you to the next level.

The problem is after a few fights, it is possible to get tired. Just like we get tired in the natural, we can also get tired in the spiritual. Sometimes the problem isn't unbelief, the problem is that you are spiritually weary.

5 symptoms of battle weariness

- You're not ready to open your heart to another word, because you know it opens the door to another fight and you don't know if you can handle another fight.
- You're coasting through life, just believing enough to keep functioning, but you're not reaching for the abundant life. You're not living in and from the overflow.
- You no longer value prophetic words spoken over you because you know that it will take another warfare of faith to manifest it!
- You're not stirred up by the Word of God anymore. You still enjoy the sound of the preached word (or the sound of the rain) but you don't allow the water to get into any place of significance in your life.

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- Your prayer life is pretty much nonexistent or is more of something you do as part of a mindless daily routine.

The reality is that the enemy does not stop because you're tired! the temptations don't stop! The offence doesn't stop! In fact, that's where he wants you because he knows that God can't use you when you're lukewarm!

But guess what else doesn't stop? The Word of the Lord! He is relentless in His pursuit of you! He won't stop knocking on your door because He is determined that you will win. Even when we are faithless, He remains faithful! 2 Timothy 2:13

3 ways to overcome battle weariness:

- Understand that the life of faith is good and carries a great recompense of reward.
(Hebrews 10:35).

In fact, the rewards of walking in faith ALWAYS supersedes the challenge of walking in faith. (Romans 8:18). It doesn't always feel like it, but I'm sure that if you speak to any notable person who acted in faith in challenging times, they will testify that the rewards superseded ALL their expectations!

Galatians 6:9 And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

- PRAY! PRAY! PRAY!

Luke 18:1 Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart,

Through prayer, we replenish the strength expended in fighting the fight of faith. You spend spiritual energy every time you believe God, prayer helps you replenish your strength.

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The enemy discourages you from praying because he wants you right there...neither hot nor cold! He wants you tired, he wants you apathetic, he wants you living a life with risk. He knows God can't use you when you're lukewarm

But in your prayer closet, you will get refreshed! In your prayer closet, you will receive strength. In the place of prayer that you receive all you need to continue the fight of faith

Isaiah 40:29-31 He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall, but those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

c) Understand that the seed of your victory is in the Word.

Romans 8:37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

The "Him" who loved us is Jesus. Jesus is the Word. In times of battle weariness, the strategy of the enemy is to keep you in a place where you are constantly resisting the Word of God.

The truth is that we are more than conquerors through that Word!! The word you are resisting, the Jesus you're keeping out of that space in your life, He makes you more than a conqueror!

Conclusion.

Battle weariness is real, because the fight of faith is real. You don't need to feel bad or condemned that you are tired. You just need to decide that you will not stay there. There is so much more that God has in store for you. Get back in the ring! If you're not winning, it's not yet over. Make a firm decision to open your heart to the Word of God!

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Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for being my every present supply of strength. Today I am choosing to draw strength from you. Today I choose to believe that I am strong in the Lord and in the power of your might! I will finish my race strong. I will fight the fight of faith with your strength. I am already more than a conqueror because of your immense love for me

Discussion questions

- Have you ever experienced battle weariness? What battles of faith have worn you out spiritually, in the past?
- What other symptoms of battle weariness have you experienced?
- How did you deal with that battle weariness? What might you do differently after listening to this message?
- Which part of this study resonated with you the most and why?