

SERMON DATE: January 31, 2021

SERMON SERIES: Why Should We Believe the Bible?

SERMON TITLE: God's Word is Healing for His People

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

Proverbs 4:20-23 (NASB)

My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. ²¹ Do not let them depart from your sight; Keep them in the midst of your heart. ²² For they are life to those who find them And health to all their body. ²³ Watch over your heart with all diligence, For from it flow the springs of life.

SUMMARY STATEMENT

God's Word can heal. It is full of God's power and carries the authority of God who spoke it. God's Word will not return to God void, but it will produce what He sent it to do. You have the guarantee of Jesus -- His Word will produce freedom. But, you must abide, or continue, in His Word. You must take it in until you know that you know that you know the truth. Then you will act on that Truth -- and it will make you free. God's medicine works by taking His Word into your being. You do that by listening to the Word, reading the Word, and speaking the Word. Filling your thoughts with the Word of God more than anything else is the key. The more of God's medicine you take, the better off you will be!

POINTS TO NOTE

POINT #1 - The Healing (Restorative) Nature of God's Word

Proverbs 4:22 - "For they are life to those who find them, and health to all their flesh."

Psalms 23:3 - "He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake."

Psalm 107:20 - "He sent His word and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions."

We were "sin sick" and enslaved to sin (John 8:34 - *Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin."*) but the Word of God, the good news of the Gospel, came and rescued us and saved from our destruction.

POINT #2 - Four Principles To Experience The Restorative Nature of God's Word

Principle #1 - Give Attention to the Word (Proverbs 4:20)

-Be deliberate about your time in the Word.

John 8:31 – "*Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, 'If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.'*"

Principle #2 - Incline Your Ear (Proverbs 4:20)

-Be sensitive and responsive to what the Holy Spirit reveals you in the word of God.

"He that has an ear, let him hear." (Matt. 11:15 & Rev. 2:29)

Principle #3 - Don't let it depart from your sight (Proverbs 4:21)

-Strive with determination to retain the word of God.

Principle #4 - Keep God's word in the midst of your heart

(Proverbs 4:21)

-Allow the word of God into the deep recesses of your heart.

Psalm 119:11 – "*Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You.*"

Guarding of the Heart (Proverbs 4:23)

"Watch over your heart with all diligence" (NASB) – This can be accomplished by applying these four principles:

Psalm 28:7 – "*The LORD is my strength and my shield; My heart trusted in Him, and I am helped; Therefore my heart greatly rejoices, And with my song I will praise Him.*"

Note #1: We learn to trust in God as we learn to trust His word

Result:

Proverbs 4:22 – *“For they are **life** to those who find them, and **health** to all their flesh.”*

Life – *“I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.” (John 10:10)*

Health – *Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers. (3 John 2)*

POINT #3 - There Is Healing for Soul and Body

Note #2: God’s written word heals the soul, His manifest Word demonstrated God’s power to heal the body.

Jesus Christ, God’s Word that became flesh, and dwelt among men, is God’s manifested Word.

Mark 9:23 – *“Jesus said to him, ‘If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.’”*

Ephesians 3:20 – *“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”*

James 5:15 – *“And the prayer of faith will save the sick”*

Mark 5:34 - *“And He said to her, ‘Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction.’”*