

Am I getting better at receiving from God His words to me, both each day and in every emergency, whether my own or another's?

Jam 1:18 ...He gave us birth as sons by His Word of Truth...(our hearts believed) AMP

After being born again by believing the initial words of the Gospel, of God forgiving my sins why do I have to keep receiving from God more of His words into my heart? 9 reasons:

1. To stay alive to God: His first word made me alive, His daily words keep me alive to Him:

Matt 6:11 **Give us this day our daily bread.** (what is this bread I must eat? His word)

Isa 55:10-11 ...**Bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes out from My mouth;**

Matt 4:4 ...**Man shall...live...by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.**

2 Cor 4:16 ...**The inward man is being renewed (Kept alive) day by day (by God's word).**

2. To make me free from sin, from ever disobeying Him, by now saving my will or soul:

Ps 119:11 **I have thought much about your words and stored them in my heart so that they would hold me back from sin.** TLB

Jo 8:31-32 ...**If you continue in my word, you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.** KJV

Jam 1:21 (This is written to Christians)...**Receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls** (your will, from wanting to disobey God).

3. To make me know, do and pray God's will and have His wisdom for myself and others:

Ps 119:133 **Direct my steps by Your word, And let no sin have dominion over me.**

Isa 30:21 **Your ears shall hear a word...saying, "This is the way, walk in it,"**

2 Tim 3:16 **All Scripture...is profitable for instruction in righteousness,**

2 Tim 3:15 ...**The Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise unto salvation...**

4. By them I receive each of God's promises for my provision, my health and my safety:

3 Jo 2 **Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as (in parallel with) your soul prospers** (you will be being saved from sin).

1 Pe 3:13 ...**Who is he who will harm you if you become followers of what is good?**

Prov 29:25 ...**Whoever trusts in the LORD shall be safe.**

5. To have more of His words of life in me, by which I can give birth to and grow others:

1 Pe 4:11 **If anyone speaks he should do it as one speaking the very words of God:**

John 15:8 ...**That you bear much fruit** (speaking live words containing the seeds of God's Words, that the hearts of others can eat) **so you will be My disciples.**

Prov 11:30 **The fruit of** (words spoken by) **the righteous is a tree of life** (to the hearer);

6. To increase my ability to totally trust God in everything regardless of my circumstances:

Rom 10:17 **Faith comes by hearing** (with my heart) **and hearing of the word of God.**

Rom 10:8 ...**The word is near you...that is the word of faith which we preach:**

7. To enable me to overcome the thoughts of evil spirits, stronger than I, that rule the world:

1 Jo 5:19 ...**The whole world is under the rule of the Evil One.** TEV

Ps 142:6 ...**Deliver me from my persecutors, For they are stronger than I.**

1 Jo 2:14 ...**The word of God abides in you and you have overcome the wicked one.**

8. To cause me to personally know God better and better and so grow me up spiritually:

Prov 2:1&5 ...**If you receive my words...Then you will...find the knowledge of God.**

1 Pe 2:2 ...**Desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,**

9 To sanctify me from self-rule and conform me to Christ's holy, loving and God-ruled nature

John 17:17 **Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.**

2 Thes 2:13 ...**Salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth,**

Col 3:10 ...**The new** (spiritual) **self, which is being renewed** (daily) **in knowledge** (God's word) **in the image** (and likeness) **of its Creator** (Jesus Christ). NIV

Not only does God want to feed me more of His words daily but every time I have a need:

Heb 4:16 **Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy** (forgiveness) **and find grace to help in time of need.** (what's grace?)

Acts 20:32 **I commend you to God and to the word of His grace** (grace is God's word) **which is able to build you up** (make you strong in spirit able to overcome all thoughts) **and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified;**

There are some who say all they really need is to be led by the Holy Spirit and they will be just fine, and are not so much interested in daily receiving more of God's words in their heart. What they don't understand is that if they are to be led by God's Spirit, who is the Spirit of truth, the Spirit of God's word, and not led by an evil spirit, then God's Spirit will always lead them daily to more of God's word, revealing to them it isn't law but grace:

John 16:13 (Jesus) **When the Spirit of truth has come He will guide you into all truth.**

God will love me, free me, guide me, empower me and change me – how? By His words

Matt 6:11 (My daily prayer) **Give me this day my daily bread** (words He gives me).
John 6:48 (Jesus) **I am the bread of life** (Jesus says the words I'm given are Himself).
John 6:57 (Jesus)...**So he that eats Me, he shall live by Me** (be made like Me) KJV
Jer 15:16 **Your words were found** (daily), **and I ate them...**
2 Pet 1:4 **...Exceedingly great and precious promises, (God's words) through these**
(as you eat, as in, believe them) **you may be partakers of the divine nature**;

Do you know how daily, with certainty, to seek and to find more of God's living words, by which to be made free from and kept free from sin, to know God's will, to be fortified with His faith and to be increasingly made more like Christ? Do you know how in every clutch situation, when you must know specifically by His word what God wants you to do; When the voice of your conscience, the desire of your heart and the witness of God's Spirit to your spirit, are no longer clear maybe due to much mental reasoning without God's Spirit?

What do I need to do to receive fresh words from God each day and in my times of need?

1. Ask God in a believing prayer to give you His life sustaining word, you won't be denied:

Matt 6:11 (Our daily prayer) **Father, give me this day my daily bread.**

Ps 143:8 (This is a prayer too) **Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morning, For in You do I trust...**(since lovingkindness is something that I can hear with my heart, then it's His word. But notice the need for trust).

Matt 21:22 (Jesus) **Whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.**

2. Believe that your heart is awakened to hear God's word and that He will speak to you:

Isa 50:4 **He (God) wakens Me morning by morning, He wakens My ear to hear as a disciple, as one who is taught.** AMP

Prov 6:22 **...And when you awake, they (My words) will speak with you.**

John 10:27 **My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.**

3. Know that only the Holy Spirit can give life to the dead written word so it speaks to you:

2 Cor 3:6 **...The new covenant, which consists not of a written law but of the Spirit; the written law brings death (to God) but the Spirit gives life (to the word).** TEV

1 Cor 2:11 **...No one knows the things of God (His words) except the Spirit of God.**

John 3:27 **...A person can receive nothing unless it is given him from heaven.**

1 Cor 2:14 **...The natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God...nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned (by his spirit).**

4. Accept you will have to be fed God's word by others, if you are still spiritually immature:

Matt 11:25 (Jesus) **Father...You have hidden these things** (Your life giving words) **from the wise and clever and learned, and revealed them to babies...** AMP

1 Pet 2:2 **As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow;**

1 Thes 2:7 **We were gentle among you, just as a nursing mother cherishes her own children** (the Church is our mother, more mature Christians have our milk:)

John 21:15 (Jesus asks) **...Do you love Me?...Feed My lambs** (the milk of My words).

So how do we get fed the milk of God's words by others, until, just like a natural child, we are mature enough to receive the solid food of His words and feed ourselves? By faithfully attending every meeting of the Church, our mother, and listening with our hearts to the words of God preached and spoken directly to us. This is the equivalent of being breast fed milk. But it is imperative that between Church services we daily and frequently listen to audio messages of those services by CD or the internet, which is the equivalent of being bottle fed milk. It would also be highly beneficial to listen to inspired songs consisting of God's words set to music, for this too is bottle feeding. At this stage we more easily receive milk by hearing words, than by reading our Bibles or inspired teachings. Some unwisely presume they can skip milk and go straight to bread, and they die to God.

5. Not having a personal mother to feed them, many baby Christians fall away from God;

In addition every baby Christian, even if they were born again years ago but never grew, should be exhorted to put themselves under the personal care of a genuinely spiritual elder, a mother, to keep feeding them milk, wash them, and thereby start to disciple them.

Matt 28:19-20 (Jesus) **Go and make disciples in all the nations...and then teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you...** TLB

6. After receiving the Holy Spirit the spiritually young need to be weaned from the milk:

After much growth on milk, including the milk scriptures we were fed on the Baptism with the Holy Spirit, we'll be ready for the solid food, bread, of the gospel's deeper truths; like learning how to eliminate sin, living in the Spirit, overcoming evil spirits, praying God's will, speaking by the Spirit, feeding ourselves, winning and discipling others and being made like Christ. Some will resist being weaned, but that very disobedience, if continued, could ruin them. Since we are still so young spiritually, the equivalent of one to two years old when weaned from being exclusively on milk, we will still need others to break the bread of God's word down for us into more bite size morsels. One of the five-fold ministry gifts that God has given to the Church is the gift of the ministry of the anointed teacher.

Lam 4:4 **...The young children ask for bread but no one breaks it for them** (until:)

Eph 4:11-12 **He Himself gave some to be...teachers, for the equipping of the saints;**

In this stage of spiritual growth most of the words God speaks and makes living to the young disciple of Christ, will still be through the mouth of others whom He anoints – at services, in recorded messages, or by the one personally discipling us. So these should

all be diligently continued. However God will in parallel with this be speaking directly to the spiritually young believer from the Bible or from anointed writings about the Bible.

7. God speaking from His written word to our hearts: these are some of the many ways:

In order for God to speak to me, first of all it is essential that I believe that God does in fact speak from His word by His Spirit, and that He speaks to my heart and not to my intellect or brain. My heart or spirit is the only part of me God has designed to receive spiritual understanding. I must also believe that if I really want to hear Him He will speak.

Prov 20:27 **The spirit of a man is the lamp of the LORD, Searching all the inner depths of his heart.** Rom 10:10 **For with the heart one believes...**

Jer 29:13 **You will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.**

Matt 7:7-9 (Jesus) **Ask, and it will be given to you...Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone?** (None, nor will God)

Here are some examples of ways in which God brings to life His words in written form:

- When I read a chapter in the Bible, in sequence, slowly and thoughtfully each day.
- When I read a daily devotional or scripture calendar verse or both, the same way.
- When I read a section of an anointed book or truth paper, daily, the same way.
- By God's Spirit reminding me of a verse I previously heard or read (John 14:26).
- By being inspired to do a search and study in the Bible of a specific word or verse.
- As I advance, God's Spirit directing me to a Bible chapter, devotional page or paper.
- As I advance, God's Spirit directing me to a specific verse in my Bible or in a writing.

2 Tim 2:15 **Study to show yourself approved unto God, a worker who isn't ashamed;**

Every day and during the day, as God speaks to me through His word, His wisdom, I must refrain from trying to understand it or apply it with my intellect, but get His: Such as; Father; is it just this verse, all or just part of it, is it for me or another, what do you mean?

Prov 4:7 **Wisdom (God's word) is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding** (its meaning and application from His Spirit).

There will be some clear indications that I am becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ, apart from the increasing manifestation of Christ's very own life in me. They may include: My active daily use of a concordance, hand-held Bible or Bible software; my keeping a daily journal of the things God says to me, my development of a simple filing system to keep track of the growing number of precious writings I possess; the beginning of a highly treasured library of inspired books and CD's through which God has much loved me, works to be frequently re-read with additional copies to bless others with. I will continue to be taught God's word by others until I myself become a teacher, and even afterwards too.

2 Tim 2:2 **Take the teachings that you heard me preach...and entrust them to reliable people who will be able to teach others also** (and so grow God's kingdom).