

Exercising Word Gifts for Building up the Body of Christ.

4th Talk: Inspired Reading of Scripture

March 24, 2019

- A. “Our Heavenly Father is inviting his children to take up their inheritance.” Page 14 of Lord Renew Your Wonders, Stayne
- What is our inheritance?
 - Inherited tools
 - Word of God as a tool
 - Inspired Word of God-St. Francis example from Chapter 5 of *Sober Intoxication II* P. 90 of “sweet-smelling crusty loaves of bread that have just come out of the oven”
- B. “In His infinite wisdom, the Lord knows what we need to know.” p 64 of The Spiritual Gifts Handbook by Randy Clark and Mary Healy
- God uses His word to tell His people what we need to know
 - We are the mouthpiece, the living epistles
 - How can I tell if I’m suppose to share a scripture? (*Sober Intox* p. 93-94)
 - Who can the scripture be for?
 - How can I share the inspired scripture?
 - Don’t worry about the big picture, just focus on the inspiration and being obedient. We have only a piece of the puzzle, and we don’t have to know what the puzzle piece is a picture of. An scripture might be for an individual.
- C. Going “from Maintenance to Mission” from Divine Renovation by Fr. James Mallon
- The tools are meant to be used. Don’t leave them in the tool box
 - Exercising the gifts takes focusing on strengthening those muscles, am I even aware that the Lord might want me to share scripture?
 - Getting out of Maintenance Mode
 - We are not made for this world, but the next.
- D. Personal Examples of how Inspired Scripture sharings have blessed me.
- Karen G. in College
 - Convicting scripture vs. feel good scripture and the need for both (*Sober Intox* p. 92 “...present the word of God in its purity” “don’t water it down and dilute it with a thousand human words.”)
 - Prayer meeting scriptures sharings
- E. Conclusion: The Holy Spirit will not be thwarted. He has an answer for every generation. His word is Living, always alive always applicable. God continues to use it to inspire. The Holy Spirit has an answer for the challenges of the day. He has a solution already quued up. Are we going to give our yes, and let Him use us?

For Further Study
Inspired Scripture Talk #4 Weekly Study

1 John 4:6

Romans 8:2

2 Tim 2:15

2 Cor 3:6-18

Mark 16:15-20

1 Cor 2:1-5

1 Thess 1:5

Heb 2:1-4

1 Chronicles 28: 9-10

Mark 1:22

2 Peter 1:21

1 Thess 2:13

Hebrews 4:12

1 Corin. 2:4

From Vi's (Long Time Member of CCGD) New King James Version Bible:

*This is an excerpt from a teaching found in Vi's Bible entitled **The Way God's Word is to Be Ministered** Focusing on 2 Cor. 3: 5-8 and dated 6/28/04.*

"Believing in the truthfulness of God's Word does not guarantee that we will minister that truth in the Spirit of God. Eph 4:15 describes growth and maturity in the body of Christ as being related to our "speaking the truth in love." In the words of 2 Cor 3:6, the apostle Paul warns of the danger of God's Word being ministered literally but not life-givingly. We need not wonder if this is possible, since the Spirit of Truth (1John 4:6) and the Sprit of Life (Rom 8:28) are the same---the Holy Spirit! Blending both will always reveal three things:

- 1) A faithfulness to "keep straight" (2 Tim 2:15) "Rightly dividing the word or truth" means putting forward the truth, faithfully and forthrightly. (this verse was never intended to refer to "dividing" the Word by segmenting it,*

but rather to a straightforward dealing with all the truth and all its implications.

- 2) A constant presence of love, even in the most demanding declarations of correction or judgement. In the texts above (2 Cor. 3-6; Eph 4:15) we have already discussed this, but human tendencies need this reminder. Urgency may attend our message and passion infuse our deliver; but anger, impatience and irritation are not the lif-giving Spirit, however literally accurate the interpretation of the Bible or preaching thereof may be.*
- 3) An expectation of the signs to follow the preaching of God's Word. Jesus promised this, and the early church tasted its beginnings. (Mark 16:15-21); Paul described it as normative in his ministry and the Book of Hebrews endorsed this as part of the "so great salvation" we have provided (Heb 2:1-4). This las reference shows that the confirmation of God's Word with signs and wonders not only is to verify Christ's living presence where His gospel is preached, but also is to warn us against drifting from the new life to which we have been called. Luke 16:17, 1 Pet 1:23."*