### THE WORD OF GOD

### God's Word Guides

(Psa 119:105 NIV) Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

### Answers in God's Word

(Mat 2:4-6 NIV) When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel."

#### **Answers in the Word**

- The world will end Oct 21st?: (Mat 24:36)
- Marriage is between a man and women: (Mat 19:5)
- Physical discipline is okay: (Prov 23:13)
- Offenses will come: (Luke 17:1)
- Direction for your life: (Prov 3:5-6)

### Its Alive and Active

(Heb 4:12 NIV) For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

### Luke 8:4-15

### What is the SEED? The Word of God

### Point 1

The devil desires that you not Believe and be saved

### Believe and be saved

(Luke 8:12 NIV) Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved.

### Seeks the weak

(1 Pet 5:8 NIV) Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

### Put on the armor

(Eph 6:11 NIV) Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

### Do not give the devil a foothold

(Eph 4:26-27 NIV) "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold.

# Remedy: Submit to God and resist

### Submit and Resist

(James 4:7 NIV) Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

### Point 2

Testing can cause some to fall away

### They fall away

(Luke 8:13 NIV) Those on the rock are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away.

### Hold firmly

(1 Cor 15:2 NIV) By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

### Temptation

(Mat 6:13 NIV) And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'

### Tempted by the devil

(Mat 4:1 NIV) Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil.

### What did Jesus do?

"It is written"

### Testing produces...

(James 1:2-3 NIV) Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance.

# Remedy: In temptation look to God

### God is faithful

(1 Cor 10:13 NIV) No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

### There is a reward

(James 1:12 NIV) Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.

### Point 3

Life's troubles can cause some not to mature.

### They do not mature

(Luke 8:14 NIV) The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature.

### Be careful

(Luke 21:34 NIV) "Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you unexpectedly like a trap.

### A Warning

(1 Tim 6:9 NIV) People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction.

## Remedy: Give it to God

### Give it to God

(1 Pet 5:7 NIV) Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

### Point 4

They hear the Word, retain it, and by persevering produce <u>fruit</u>.

### Produce a crop

(Luke 8:15 NIV) But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

### Fruit!

(John 15:8 NIV) This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

### Let the Word dwell in you

(Col 3:16 NIV) Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

### A Workman

(2 Tim 2:15 NIV) Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

### Preach the Word

(2 Tim 4:2 NIV) Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage--with great patience and careful instruction.

# Remedy: Don't just hear the word, do it

### Do what it says

(James 1:21-23 NIV) Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you. Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.

#### **Promise of God**

- His eyes are on us (Psa 33:18)
- He will complete the good work he began in us (Phil 1:6)
- He is with us (Mat 18:19-20)
- He gives life (John 10:10)
- He prepares a place for us (John 14:1)
- He gives us peace (John 14:27)
- He has prepared good works for us (Eph 2:10)
- He works things for the good (Rom 8:28)
- Nothing can separate us from God's love (Rom 8:38-39)

# Conclusion