



## CELL GUIDE

**TOPIC** Be Grounded in The Word

**SPEAKER**

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**THEME** BE series

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# MESSAGE SUMMARY

## INTRODUCTION

Believers are called to live a life with purpose, destiny and with the END in mind. What is the END of reading the Bible? The answer is found in 2 Tim 3:17 – “...so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.” This speaks of believers being complete (spiritually mature), competent (fully equipped) and fulfilling our calling (to do good works). In order to do so, we need to read, study, internalise and apply God’s Word.

## KEY BENEFITS OF READING THE BIBLE

2 Tim 3:16 states “All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness”.

### 1) The Word of God TEACHES us

Teaching is helping someone learn something by giving them new information. As we make time to learn from the Word of God, new truths will be made known to us. We will grow in our spiritual maturity when we apply God’s Word in our lives. To help us apply God’s Word, we can use the acronym BICEPS to remind ourselves as we study the Bible:

- a) **B**eliefs to embrace – does the passage contain any beliefs for us to embrace?
- b) **I**tems for prayer – does the passage call to mind anyone or situation we can pray for?
- c) **C**ommands to obey – does the passage remind us of any commands that we should obey?
- d) **E**xamples to follow – does the passage exhort us to follow the examples described?
- e) **P**romises to claim – are there any promises in the passage that we can claim?
- f) **S**ins to avoid – does the passage warn us of any sins that we should avoid?

BBTC has many courses for us to sign up for in order to grow and learn new truths – for example ‘Growing Disciple Track’, ‘Spiritual Parent Training’, ‘Restoring the Foundations’, to name a few. Only when we grow and apply God’s Word, can we be spiritually mature (complete) to do the good works that God had prepared for us to do (ie. END in mind).

### 2) The Word of God REPROVES us

As the Chinese saying goes, ‘bitter medicine is good for our cure’. Similarly, the Word of God is meant to disturb those who are comfortable and comfort those who are disturbed. God’s Word rebukes and convicts our carnal nature and warns us of the consequences of sin. 2 Tim 2:22-23 warns us to flee from lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace. As believers, the only appropriate response to God’s rebuke is repentance. In order for us to pursue righteousness,

faith, love and peace, we need do so journeying together with a community of believers to support and hold one another accountable.

When we allow the Word to rebuke us and we come to Him in repentance, we experience more of God's grace, transforming our carnal nature into a redeemed nature. This the process of sanctification, where believers are being made equipped (competent) to do the good works that God had prepared for us to do (ie. END in mind).

### 3) The Word of God CORRECTS us

While God's rebuke speaks of our fleshly or carnal nature, pointing out sins in our lives, God's correction helps us to be better so that we can grow to be more Christlike. Believers cannot live out the victorious Christian life on our own efforts. Instead, reliance on the Holy Spirit is imperative. In the book of Galatians, Paul emphasises the importance of relying on the Holy Spirit (Gal 3:2, 3, 4:6, 5:5, 16, 18, 25). Just as Paul preached with the power of the Holy Spirit, how much more, we too, must witness to those around us empowered by the Word, filled with the Holy Spirit.

### 4) The Word of God TRAINS us

In 2 Timothy, Paul talked about the need to suffer for the gospel (1:18, 12, 2:3, 9, 3:11, 4:5), to be strong in the grace that is Christ (2:1), to endure (2:10, 12, 3:11, 4:5), to be prepared for difficult times (3:1, 4:1). In order to do all this, we need to develop and strengthen our spiritual foundation, training our spiritual muscles. To train ourselves, we must do the following:

- a) Hear (Luke 11:28) and/or read God's Word (Deut 17:19) - Even while we read or listen to God's word, we need to do so with the aim of proclaiming it or teaching it to others.
- b) Study God's Word (2 Tim 2:15) – to deepen our understanding.
- c) Memorise God's Word (Ps 119:9,11) – memorising God's Word enables us to recall God's Word at the appropriate time and live it out.
- d) Meditate on God's Word (Jos 1:18) – Christian meditation actively engages the mind for the purpose of understanding God's Word and putting it into practice. It is a way of internalising God's Word deep into our hearts so that the Holy Spirit can work through it to guide, teach, purify and transform us from within. Meditating on God's Word allows God's truths to move from our MINDS to our HEARTS.

## CONCLUSION

What does it mean to live with the END in mind? It means that as believers, we need to be thoroughly saturated with the Word of God. Through the process of sanctification, we need to continually transform our redeemed nature, to replace our worldly values with kingdom values, living out our Christian faith ever relying on the power of the Holy Spirit. We must grow in the knowledge of God's Word, allowing the Word to teach, rebuke, correct and train us so that we can be adequate, equipped for every good work.

# QUESTIONS

1. 2 Tim 3:16 states “All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness”. Share a time you have experienced one (or more) of these. How did it impact your life?

2. SP Chua Seng Lee shared that to be trained in God’s word, we need to hear, read, study, memorise, and meditate on God’s Word. Which of these areas do you find most challenging and what practical steps can you take to improve that area?

3. Living with the END in mind refers to believers living a life with purpose and destiny, being spiritually mature (complete), equipped (competent) to do God’s work (calling). What are the good works that God has called you to do? What steps can you take to obey / fulfill His calling?