

## Talk 1

# Faith is Activating the Promises of God

- The Bible should be read like any other book.

**Deuteronomy 30:11-14**

- But the Bible demands a further and deeper level of comprehension.  
**1 Corinthians 2:9-12; Colossians 1:9-10**

Jesus' entire ministry was built around the authority that came out of a revelation of Scripture. Jesus did not depend merely upon the kind of memorisation commended in **Psalms 119:9-11**

- Paul stirs us to enter into a relationship with Scripture as Jesus did.  
**Romans 10:8-17**

The Greek word for save is '*soteria*,' meaning 'rescue, deliverance and preservation.' '*Soteria*' describes a state of wholeness.

Paul says that this '*saving*' faith '*comes*' (vs 17)

But how does this faith '*come*'?

By no other way than the Word of God (vs 8; 14; 17)

Paul describes the Word as coming to us in three ways (vs 8)

## 1. THE WORD IN OUR HEADS

**Romans 10:8; 14; 17**

- We must commit ourselves to a programme of absorbing Scripture. This was one of the keys to Jesus' great authority (**John 7:14-15**) He was '*learned*' in the Word.
- There's no substitute for the constant reading of Scripture. This is why faith '*comes*' by '*hearing the Word*.' **2 Timothy 3:14-15; Psalms 1:1-3**

## 2. THE WORD IN OUR HEARTS

**Romans 10:8-10**

- Only to memorise Scripture is sterile and will lack strength to transform our lives. We need the revelation of the Word into our hearts.

**2 Kings 6:8-17**

- The need to gain an *'inner'* revelation of Scripture was the main theme of Paul's prayers. **Ephesians 1:16-19**

Note Jesus' grasp of the revelation of Scripture.

**(Luke 24:25-27; 32; 45-47)**

- Christians must be born, they cannot be made. Paul's ministry had but one aim: *"so that we may know Him (Christ) better!"* We need to search Scripture until it is deeply *"revealed"* to us!

### **3. THE WORD IN OUR MOUTH**

**Romans 10:8-10**

- There is no substitute for speaking the Word or the promise of God. Utterance is the catalyst that triggers action. The Word of God is *'programmed'* to respond only to the sound of the voice of faith.

- **Here are some examples from Scripture...**

**Psalms 31:19** Bold confession brings great blessing.

**Hebrews 13:5-6** God's promises must first be personalised, then spoken.

We cannot just *'think'* the Word, because *"out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks!"* **(Matthew 12:34).**

**2 Samuel 7:27-29** Solomon spoke God's promises back to Him.

- **Conclusion**

Jesus has set us an example to follow. He boldly declared the Word of God concerning Himself and His mission. When He united the Spirit and the Word, power was released both into His life, a new kind of man came into being, One who was invincible in doing the will of God. We too can experience this type of power and change if we follow the example of Jesus in how He created an active relationship with the Word of God.