

# THE LIVING THE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

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# +**↑**→DISCIPLES PATH

*Disciples Path* is a series of studies founded on Jesus' model of discipleship. Created by experienced disciple makers across the nation, it offers an intentional pathway for transformational discipleship and a way to help followers of Christ move from new disciples to mature disciple makers. Each study in the series is built on the principles of modeling, practicing, and multiplying:

- Leaders model the life of a biblical disciple.
- Disciples follow and practice from the leader.
- Disciples become disciple makers and multiply through the *Disciples Path*.

Each study in the series has been written and approved by disciple-makers for small groups and one-on-one settings.

Contributor:

Carolyn Taketa, Calvary Community Church, Westlake Village, CA



For helps on how to use *Disciples Path*, tips on how to better lead groups, or additional ideas for leading this study, visit: *www.ministrygrid.com/web/disciplespath* 

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**Eric Geiger** Vice President, LifeWay Resources

**Rick Howerton** Discipleship Specialist

Sam O'Neal, Joel Polk Content Editors

Brian Daniel Manager, Discipleship Publishing

#### Michael Kelley

Director, Groups Ministry

We believe that the Bible has God for its author; salvation for its end; and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter and that all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. To review LifeWay's doctrinal guideline, visit www.lifeway.com/doctrinalguideline.

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#### A NOTE FOR DISCIPLE MAKERS

Several years ago I was part of a massive research study that sought to discover how the Lord often brings about transformation in the hearts of His people. The study became a book called *Transformational Discipleship*. Basically, we wanted to learn how disciples are made. Based on the study of Scripture and lots of interactions with people, we concluded that transformation is likely to occur when a godly **leader** applies **truth** to the heart of a person while that person is in a teachable **posture**.

- **LEADER:** You are the leader. As you invest in the people you're discipling, they will learn much about the Christian faith by watching you, by sensing your heart for the Lord, and by seeing you pursue Him. I encourage you to seek to be the type of leader who can say, "Follow my example as I follow the example of Christ."
- **TRUTH:** All six studies in the *Disciples Path* series were developed in deep collaboration with ministry leaders who regularly and effectively disciple people. The studies are designed to take the people you disciple into the Word of God—because we're confident that Jesus and His Word sanctify us and transform us. Our community of disciple-makers mapped out a path of the truths we believe are essential for each believer to know and understand.
- **POSTURE:** Hopefully the people you will be investing in adopt a teachable posture—one that is open and hungry for the Lord. Encourage them to take the study seriously and to view your invitation to study together as a sacred opportunity to experience the grace of God and the truth of God.

We hope and pray the Lord will use this study in your life and the lives of those you disciple. As you apply the truth of God to teachable hearts, transformation will occur. Thank you for being a disciple-maker!



In Christ,

Spe

Eric Geiger Vice President at LifeWay Christian Resources Co-author of *Transformational Discipleship* 

#### WHAT IS A DISCIPLE?

Congratulations! If you've chosen to live as a disciple of Jesus, you've made the most important decision imaginable. But you may be wondering, *What does it mean to be a disciple?* 

To put it simply, a disciple of Jesus is someone who has chosen to follow Jesus. That's the command Jesus gave to those He recruited as His first disciples: "Follow Me." In Jesus' culture, religious leaders called rabbis would gather a group of followers called disciples to follow in their footsteps and learn their teachings. In the same way, you will become more and more like Jesus as you purposefully follow Him in the weeks to come. Jesus once said, "Everyone who is fully trained will be like his teacher" (Luke 6:40).

On a deeper level, disciples of Jesus are those learning to base their identities on Jesus Himself. All of us use different labels to describe who we are at the core levels of our hearts. Some think of themselves as athletes or intellectuals. Others think of themselves as professionals, parents, leaders, class clowns, and so on.

Disciples of Jesus set aside those labels and base their identities on Him. For example:

- A disciple of Jesus is a child of God. In the Bible we find these words: "Look at how great a love the Father has given us that we should be called God's children. And we are!" (1 John 3:1). We are God's children. He loves us as our perfect Father.
- A disciple of Jesus is an alien in this world. Disciples of Jesus are aliens, or outsiders, in their own cultures. Because of this identity, Jesus' disciples abstain from actions and activities that are contrary to Him. Peter, one of Jesus' original disciples, wrote these words: "Dear friends, I urge you as strangers and temporary residents to abstain from fleshly desires that war against you" (1 Pet. 2:11).
- A disciple of Jesus is an ambassador for Christ. Another of Jesus' disciples recorded these words in the Bible: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, and look, new things have come. ... Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, certain that God is appealing through us. We plead on Christ's behalf, 'Be reconciled to God'" (2 Cor. 5:17,20). Ambassadors represent their king and country in a different culture for a specified period of time. Because we have been transformed by Jesus and are now His disciples and ambassadors, we represent Him to the world through our actions and by telling others about Him.

The journey you are about to take is one that will transform you more and more to be like Jesus. Enjoy! No one ever loved and cared for people more passionately than Jesus. No one was ever more sincere in His concern for others than Jesus. And no one ever gave more so that we could experience His love than Jesus did on the cross.

As you grow to be more like Jesus, you'll find that your relationships are stronger, you have more inner peace than ever before, and you look forward to the future as never before.

That's the blessing of living as a disciple of Jesus.

#### HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE

Welcome to *The Life*. By exploring the journey of Jesus' earliest disciples, both new and established Christians will gain a better understanding of what it means to follow Christ. As you get started, consider the following guides and suggestions for making the most of this experience.

#### **GROUP DISCUSSION**

Because the process of discipleship always involves at least two people—the leader and the disciple—each session of *The Life* includes a practical plan for group engagement and discussion.

This plan includes the following steps:

- **GET STARTED.** The first section of the group material helps you ease into the discussion by starting on common ground. You'll begin by reflecting on the previous session and your recent experiences as a disciple. After spending time in prayer, you'll find a practical illustration to help you launch into the main topic of the current session.
- THE STORY. While using *Disciples Path*, you'll find opportunities to engage the Bible through both story and teaching. That's why the group time for each session features two main sections:
   Know the Story and Unpack the Story. Know the Story introduces a biblical text and includes follow-up questions for brief discussion. It's recommended that your group encounter the biblical text by reading it out loud. Unpack the Story includes practical teaching material and discussion questions—both designed to help you engage the truths contained in the biblical text. To make the most of your experience, use the provided material as a launching point for deeper conversation. As you read through the teaching material and engage the questions as a group, be thinking of how the truths you're exploring will impact your everyday life.
- **ENGAGE.** The group portion of each session ends with an activity designed to help you practice the biblical principles introduced in **Know the Story** and more fully explored in **Unpack the Story.** This part of the group time often appeals to different learning styles and will push you to engage the text at a personal level.

#### INDIVIDUAL DISCOVERY

Each session of *The Life* also includes content for individual use during the time between group gatherings. This content is divided into three categories:

**Worship:** features content for worship and devotion. These activities provide opportunities for you to connect with God in meaningful ways and deepen your relationship with Him.

Personal study: features content for personal study. These pages help you gain a deeper understanding of the truths and principles explored during the group discussion.

← → Application: features content for practical application. These suggestions help you take action based on the information you've learned and your encounters with God.

*Note:* Aside from the **Reading Plan**, the content provided in the Individual Discovery portion of each session should be considered optional. You'll get the most out of your personal study by working with your group leader to create a personalized discipleship plan using the **Weekly Activities** checklist included in each session.

#### ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS

- You'll be best prepared for each group discussion or mentoring conversation if you read the session material beforehand. A serious read will serve you most effectively, but skimming the Get Started and The Story sections will also be helpful if time is limited.
- The deeper you're willing to engage in the group discussions and individual discovery each session, the more you'll benefit from those experiences. Don't hold back, and don't be afraid to ask questions whenever necessary.
- As you explore the **Engage** portion of each session, you'll have the chance to practice different
  activities and spiritual disciplines. Take advantage of the chance to observe others during the
  group time—and to ask questions—so that you'll be prepared to incorporate these activities into
  your private spiritual life as well.
- Visit *lifeway.com/disciplespath* for a free PDF download that includes leader helps for *The Life* and additional resources for disciple-makers.

# SESSION 1 IMMERSED IN THE WORD

Immersing ourselves in God's Word provides the foundation for our identity and life.

### **GET STARTED**

#### REFLECT

Welcome to *The Life*. The goal of this study is to help you answer the question "What does a disciple *do* as a follower of Jesus?" Throughout the following sessions, we'll examine how disciples of Jesus imitate Him by immersing themselves in God's Word, remaining connected to God through prayer, living in community with other believers, understanding how a Spirit-filled life can lead to transformation, serving others for the advancement of His kingdom, and using their lives to spread the gospel into the world. In this session, we'll begin by discovering Jesus' approach to Scripture as God's Holy Word and practical steps we can take to imitate Him in this activity.

*Which element in the description of the study above are you most excited about? Why?* 

How can a better understanding of spiritual disciplines strengthen our relationship with God and increase our ability to participate in His redemptive purposes in the world?

#### PRAY

Begin the session by connecting with God through prayer. Use the following guidelines as you speak with Him:

- Ask God to open your hearts and minds to hear what He has to say through His Word today.
- Thank God for His Word, which is described as perfect, restorative, trustworthy, wise, right, clear, insightful, pure, sweet, and helpful.
- Ask God for wisdom and understanding as you seek to gain a deeper understanding of God's Word.





#### INTRODUCTION

Who is Jesus? Do a quick Internet search and you'll find many different answers. Some of those answers will be quite specific, while others will leave you with more questions than answers. Regardless, you're bound to land on some controversy and disagreement.

Perhaps a better way to answer this question is to go to God's Holy Word. Scripture, from the beginning of Genesis to the end of Revelation, points to Jesus. Simply put, the Bible is about Jesus. It's not about us and what we must do—it's about Jesus and what He has already done. And while of course it is crucial for Christ-followers to read the Bible, *how* we read the Bible may be even more important. John Calvin says this about reading God's Word:

The Scriptures should be read with the aim of finding Christ in them. Whoever turns aside from this object, even though he wears himself out all his life in learning, he will never reach the knowledge of the truth.<sup>1</sup>

When we find Christ in Scripture we will know better how to be His followers. We will be able to communicate with Him and know who He is. And though the Bible isn't about us, we will begin to understand who we are in relation to Christ. In God's Word we find that we are both more broken than we dare let on and more loved than we dare let in. In God's Word, we find our true identities, the most authentic version of ourselves. It's only when we immerse our entire lives in God's Word that we begin to live the lives God designed and desires for us.

*What have you heard others say is the primary reason to read the Bible?* 

How does this description of the Bible differentiate it from other books throughout history?

During this session, we will explore how we can be saturated and immersed in God's Word in a way that transforms how we see God, ourselves, and the world around us.

### THE STORY

#### KNOW THE STORY

After Jesus' resurrection, Luke 24 describes the story of two disciples traveling to Emmaus. On their way, a man joined them. Unbeknown to them, this man was Jesus Himself. He asked the disciples about their conversation, and they told Him how they were troubled with Jesus' death and the news that His tomb was empty. Jesus responded in verse 25,

<sup>25</sup> "How unwise and slow you are to believe in your hearts all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> Didn't the Messiah have to suffer these things and enter into His glory?" <sup>27</sup> Then beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, He interpreted for them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures. **LUKE 24:25-27** 

As they continued on their journey, Jesus reminded them of the Old Testament Scriptures and prophecies that revealed all that would happen. Jesus told the confused disciples that all of Scripture was revealing who He was. They had no reason to be troubled because He was who He said He was and accomplished what God had sent Him to accomplish.

A few verses later in the same chapter, Jesus then presented Himself before all of the confused and troubled disciples. And in the same way, Jesus encouraged them by saying,

<sup>44</sup> Then He told them, "These are My words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about Me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup> Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup> He also said to them, "This is what is written: The Messiah would suffer and rise from the dead the third day, <sup>47</sup> and repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> And look, I am sending you what My Father promised. As for you, stay in the city until you are empowered from on high."

LUKE 24:44-49

What are some truths we can take away from these two passages?





Jesus is recorded quoting Scripture 78 times in the New Testament.

#### UNPACK THE STORY

#### SCRIPTURE REVEALS JESUS

He taught them how to understand Scripture and how all of redemptive history is pieced together and culminated at the cross. In verse 27, we read that "beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, He interpreted for them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures" (Luke 24:27). Jesus used the Scripture to give these disciples hope in the resurrection. Jesus had previously told them that He would die and be resurrected. When He presented Himself to the disciples, He revealed that all He had taught them had come true. Jesus of Nazareth is the Lord Christ—the Son of God.

Discuss some of the events in the few days surrounding Jesus' death and resurrection. What was it that made the disciples lose hope and doubt what Jesus had taught them?

When are you most likely to lose hope or doubt what Scripture teaches? Discuss how being immersed in Scripture turns that doubt into hope?

This wasn't the first time Jesus used Scripture. In Luke 4, Jesus was led out into the desert and was tempted for 40 days by God's enemy, Satan. Of the three recorded temptations, Satan attacks Jesus' identity and begins two of them with "If you are the Son of God ..." (vv. 3,9). Satan essentially dares Jesus to prove His identity by doing something amazing: turning stones to bread and jumping off the temple so the angels can catch Him. Because Jesus had immersed Himself in Scripture, He doesn't have to prove His identity to Satan. Instead, He counters each temptation with the truth of Scripture.

We see this all throughout the Gospels. Jesus knew Scripture. Even as a young boy, He learned it. He memorized it. He meditated on it. And then as an adult, He allowed it to influence His ministry in countless ways. Jesus is recorded quoting Scripture 78 times in the New Testament.

Read Psalm 119:9-16 out loud in your group. How would it affect believers' lives who meditated and hid God's Word in their hearts on a daily basis?

#### SCRIPTURE REVEALS WHO WE REALLY ARE

Even though all of Scripture points to Jesus—and we read it with the intention and expectation of finding Jesus in Scripture—it doesn't mean we can't find anything useful in Scripture concerning ourselves. The opposite is true. When we immerse our lives in God's Word through faith in the living Word that is Jesus and through immersing our lives in the written Word that is the Bible—we find an unshakable identity from which our entire lives can flow. Look at how these passages describe the Scripture's usefulness in the believer's life:

<sup>16</sup> All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. **2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17** 

The word of God is living and effective and sharper than any double-edged sword, penetrating as far as the separation of soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It is able to judge the ideas and thoughts of the heart.

**HEBREWS 4:12** 

#### What do these verses tell you about how God's Word shapes us?

Just as all of Scripture points to the cross of Jesus and the identification of Him as God's Son and the coming Messiah, we too can find and embrace an identity that's found when we immerse ourselves in God's Word. When we read the Bible with the expectation of finding Jesus, we'll begin to see that through faith in Him and His works we are adopted into God's family as His child and are given a new identity. Sadly we often forget this truth and have to be reminded of it daily. If we're not memorizing and meditating on God's Word on a consistent basis then we cannot expect to fend of Satan's attack. The more we study God's Word, the more we learn about this new identity and what God expects from us as His children.

What are some challenges believers face when they read the Bible? Discuss some ways they can overcome these challenges?

The more we study God's Word, the more we learn about this new identity and what God expects from us as His children.





### ENGAGE

Charles Spurgeon, a well-known preacher from the 19th century, once said: "As the rain soaks into the ground, so pray the Lord to let his gospel soak into your soul."<sup>2</sup> It is the repetitive pounding of the moisture into the earth that transforms it from a parched, dusty, hard ground to rich, moist, useful soil. When God's Word saturates into our thirsty souls, we will experience transformation.

Perhaps a better metaphor would be one that happens in the kitchen. Consider how meat is often saturated (sometimes for hours) in a marinade so that it will be more tender and flavorful. With that imagery in mind, consider what it would be like to saturate your entire life in God's Word in such a way that it transforms you from ordinary to extraordinary, much like a piece of meat gets completely transformed after it has been saturated in a great marinade.

In your last few minutes together, spend some time discussing ways that someone's life can be transformed by immersing himself or herself in Scripture. If there are specific passages or personal stories that come to mind be sure to share those with the group. This exercise will help you see the variety of ways in which the Bible speaks and hopefully inspires believers to delve more fully into His Word.

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

1. John Calvin, The Gospel According to John 1–10 (Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing, Co., 1961), 139.

2. Charles Spurgeon, as quoted at spurgeononline.com. Accessed April 29, 2015.

### WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

In addition to studying God's Word, work with your group leader to create a plan for personal study, worship, and application between now and the next session. Select from the following optional activities to match your personal preferences and available time.

#### **Worship**

Kead your Bible. Complete the reading plan on page 16.

 $\Box$  Spend time with God by engaging the devotional experience on page 17.

#### 🖶 🗲 Personal Study

□ Read and interact with "Marinade Instructions" on page 18.

□ Read and interact with "The Transforming Power of Scripture" on page 20.

#### 🗲 🔿 Application

- Memorize Hebrews 4:12: "For the word of God is living and effective and sharper than any double-edged sword, penetrating as far as the separation of soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It is able to judge the ideas and thoughts of the heart."
- Spend time journaling. Just as Jesus countered each of Satan's temptations by quoting Scripture, Jesus often turned to God's Word as the authority for His life. Journal about a time when God's Word spoke to you and you did something differently as a result. What happened? How did it impact your perception of Scripture?
- □ Share with others. Take time to contact a few people this week with encouragements from Scripture. This could be people within your group or those outside your group that you sense need an encouraging word.
- □ Other:



#### **READING PLAN**

Read through the following Scripture passages this week. Use the space provided to record your thoughts and responses.

**Day 1** 2 Timothy 3:10-17

**Day 2** Psalm 19:1-14

#### Day 3

Joshua 1:1-9

#### Day 4

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

**Day 5** Psalm 119:89-112

#### Day 6

1 Peter 1:13-25

#### Day 7

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

#### IMMERSE YOURSELF IN GOD'S WORD

Perhaps you are wondering: *How do I immerse myself in God's Word? What does that look like day-to-day?* This week find a verse that you want to soak in and get to know. If you don't have one on the top of your mind, use one from the daily reading plan on the previous page. Follow the steps below and answer all the questions before your group meets again.

Your passage: \_\_\_\_

#### **Memorize and Know Scripture**

Write this passage from memory below.

How would you explain this passage in your own words?

**Meditate and Believe Scripture** 

What does this passage say is true about God?

What does this passage say is true about you?

#### **Exercise and Apply Scripture**

How are you believing or not believing in the truth of this passage?

How can you show someone else the truth of this passage?

# ➡ ← PERSONAL STUDY

#### MARINADE INSTRUCTIONS

For marinade, or God's Word, to completely saturate something, or someone, there are four things that need to happen. We need to get in, get under, get through, and get transformed.

**Get In:** Just like an item needs to get into the marinade and be completely soaked, we've got to get into Scripture. First, once we begin a relationship with Jesus, we receive God's Spirit who enables us to understand Scripture in a way we never could before (see 1 Cor. 2:14-15). Second, when we grasp that the story of God revealed in Scripture spans from eternity past to eternity future, we begin to understand that our lives are actually a storyline within God's Story. We find the context for who we are as we begin to let God narrate and shape our existence through His Word. Finally, over time, we will actually begin to get into Scripture like we do a great book or movie. We actually look forward to it. We desire it!

### Have you ever thought about your life being a storyline within God's story? How does that make you feel?

What are typically the biggest distractions from you getting in the Word and allowing God to be the narrator of your life?

Every story about God's people throughout Scripture is a story about your spiritual family tree. If you are a Christian you have been adopted into God's family. Their story is yours. Every label that has been given to God's people has been given to you. Through faith in Jesus, this is just a partial list of who you are:

- God's child (Gal. 3:26)
- Part of "a chosen [people], a royal priesthood, a holy nation," and a treasured possession (1 Pet. 2:9)
- A "new creation" (2 Cor. 5:17)
- A member of "the body of Christ" (1 Cor. 12:27)
- God's friend (John 15:15)
- A citizen of heaven (Phil. 3:20)
- An ambassador for Christ (2 Cor. 5:20).

**Get Under:** Just like an item benefits from being completely under the marinade, we need to get under Scripture. It's been said that we can't understand Scripture until we stand under it. This means that the posture of our hearts can't "stand above" Scripture, picking and choosing what we like and don't like as we read it. Rather, we must "stand under" Scripture and allow the posture of our hearts to

be open to God's Word to have authority over us. Much more than just reading Scripture, we must let Scripture read us (see Heb. 4:12).

### Take a step back and think about how you approach Scripture. When are you most likely to "stand above" Scripture as described here?

When we stand above Scripture and the posture of our hearts has more authority in our lives than God's Word, it is tempting to believe partial truths or even lies about ourselves rather than the truest things that God says about us.

**Get Through:** Just like the marinade over time begins to work its way through the item being marinated, we need to let Scripture get through us. Often, people focus on getting through a specific length of Scripture at a time or over the course of a season. For example, while it is wonderful to get through the entire Bible in a year, you may experience a greater impact when you focus more on one passage or biblical truth at a time. Sometimes we need to read and let in the same passage of Scripture for weeks before it really begins to get through and change us.

Let the truth of God's Word get through every layer of who you are. Let it soak into your heart, your mind, and your memories. Re-examine the list of verses on the previous page and pray that God would allow you to trust in this identity for yourself. Take hope in the truth that if you are in Christ, God has given you a new story, a new narrative, that describes you.

#### Which identifying mark from the list do you find most difficult to believe?

**Get Transformed:** Just like marinade tenderizes and transforms anything that soaks in it for a long time, God's Word transforms any person who immerses his or her entire life in it. The exponentially beautiful truth of Scripture is that, unlike mere marinade that eventually reaches its limit in transforming an item, there is no limit to the transforming power of God's Word in our lives. We could spend every minute of the rest of our lives soaking in Scripture and we would continue to be transformed through God's Spirit into the image of Jesus more and more.

### How have you seen the transforming power of Scripture, either in your life or in the life of someone you know?

# ➡ ← PERSONAL STUDY

#### THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF SCRIPTURE

As anybody who has ever marinated a piece of chicken, fish, steak, or vegetable knows, it's not enough to just have marinade sitting on the shelf in the same room as the item. The same is true for a Bible that merely sits on a shelf. In fact, it's not enough to simply open up the bottle of marinade. The same is also true for simply opening up the Bible and expecting deep transformation.

Jesus was saturated in the truth of God's Word clearly and continually. He knew who He was and the life God designed and desired for Him to live. He experienced every moment of His life knowing God and being known by Him. As a follower of Jesus, it's essential that we too immerse ourselves in God's Word so that our entire lives can be transformed into the truest lives that God has for us.

Let's take a closer look at a passage we studied in the group time:

<sup>12</sup> The word of God is living and effective and sharper than any doubleedged sword, penetrating as far as the separation of soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It is able to judge the ideas and thoughts of the heart. <sup>13</sup> No creature is hidden from Him, but all things are naked and exposed to the eyes of Him to whom we must give an account. **HEBREWS 4:12-13** 

*Is there an area of your life that currently needs the penetrating and transforming power of God's Word?* 

What does verse 12 mean when it says God's Word is "living and effective"?

The word *sword* in verse 12 requires some additional attention. This metaphor suggests that the Bible functions much like a surgeon's scalpel when a doctor carefully identifies the location for the incision, penetrates the flesh with the depth that's required, and with great accuracy cuts out the infected area. Similarly, and with the Spirit's guidance, God's Word is a tool that clears away the infected parts of our hearts, transforming us to look more like His Son.

### *Is this a helpful metaphor? How have you experienced Scripture locating infected areas of your heart?*

There are millions of books in print today that are being read throughout the world. Most of us only have the time to read just a few of those each year—and only some of those ever have any kind of meaningful impact on our lives.

The Bible is different. It's on another level than all the other books we can get in our hands. Why? Because it's the very Word of God that tell us about Himself and guides us through life. It's living and active. We don't read it so much as we experience its transforming power.

> <sup>105</sup> Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path. <sup>106</sup> I have solemnly sworn to keep Your righteous judgments. <sup>107</sup> I am severely afflicted; LORD, give me life through Your word. <sup>108</sup> LORD, please accept my willing offerings of praise, and teach me Your judgments. <sup>109</sup> My life is constantly in danger, yet I do not forget Your instruction. <sup>110</sup> The wicked have set a trap for me, but I have not wandered from Your precepts. <sup>111</sup> I have Your decrees as a heritage forever; indeed, they are the joy of my heart. <sup>112</sup> I am resolved to obey Your statutes to the very end. PSALM 119:105-112

#### How does this passage describe a life that's dependent upon God's Word?

### How would it change your relationship with God if you allowed Him to narrate your life using the words of Scripture?