

ONE DAY BIBLE STUDY PROGRAM

Zion Prayer Fellowship, Chanamunda, Dist: Nuapada, Date: 05 April 2025

Guest Speaker: Rev. Shailendra Nanda

Why Do We Need the Word of God?

God has always exalted His Word above His great name. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary that we give His Word the utmost importance and supreme place in our lives. But why has God placed His Word even above Himself? What is this Word? Where has it come from? Why does this Word carry such immense significance?

Without answering these fundamental questions, we cannot understand **why** we need the Word of God or **how deeply** we need it. So let us try to unravel these mysteries:

In **John 8:30–32**, it is written:

"Even as He spoke, many believed in Him. To the Jews who had believed Him, Jesus said, 'If you hold to My teaching, you are really My disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.'"

Here, Jesus clearly states that **believing in Him alone is not enough**. He spoke these words not to the crowd in general but specifically to the few who had already believed in Him. He told them that unless they *continue in His Word*, they cannot be considered true disciples. Only by abiding in His Word would they come to know the truth, and only the truth can set them free.

Notice: Jesus did **not** say, "If you believe My Word..." but "If you **abide** in My Word." To abide means to dwell continually, to remain, to walk and live by His Word in our actions, our speech, our character. Only then are we counted as His disciples. Only then can we truly be free.

Some may wrongly assume that believing in Jesus alone is enough, and whether we follow His Word or not doesn't really matter. This mindset belongs to those who separate **God from His Word**, thinking of the two as different entities. But Scripture tells us plainly in **John 1:1**:

*"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word **was** God."*

We must not see God and His Word as separate; they are one. This is precisely why, as **Psalms 138:2** says:

"You have exalted Your Word above all Your name."

And that is why the Word is so powerful—it always bears fruit. It never returns empty. Just as rain and snow fall from the sky and do not return without watering the earth, so is the Word that goes out from God's mouth:

"It will not return to Me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it." (Isaiah 55:10–11)

God's power is revealed **through His Word**. And so, if we wish to be His disciples, we must remain in His Word. That's why His Word is more exalted than even His great name. David also expresses this in **Psalms 138**:

"I will praise You with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing praises to You. I will bow down toward Your holy temple and praise Your name for Your lovingkindness and Your truth; for You have magnified Your Word above all Your name." (Psalm 138:1–2)

Indeed, the Word **is** God, but it would be wrong to say that God is **limited** only to what is written. There is more to God than what is revealed in Scripture. As Moses said in **Deuteronomy 29:29**:

"The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our children forever."

There are hidden things that are beyond human understanding—truths known only to God. Sometimes, divine revelations come to us that surpass human reasoning. Just as happened with Peter:

"Jesus replied, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by My Father in heaven.'" (Matthew 16:17)

Jesus opened the mystery to Peter because He is God and holds the knowledge of all hidden things.

The same God, who controls all mysteries, does **not** want His **Word** to remain hidden from us. He wants His Word to dwell on our lips forever. In **Isaiah 59:21**, the Lord declares:

"As for Me, this is My covenant with them," says the Lord: "My Spirit, who is on you, will not depart from you, and My Words that I have put in your mouth will always be on your lips, on the lips of your children, and on the lips of their descendants—from this time on and forever," says the Lord.

If God desires that His Word **never** depart from our lips, can there be any doubt about its importance? He knows it is His Word that frees us from the chains of sin and keeps us spiritually alive. This Word is not a product of man's imagination but is divine breath itself—it is **Life** that came forth from the mouth of God.

The prophets who brought the Word did not speak of their own accord, but were moved by the **Holy Spirit**. As Peter writes:

"For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit." (2 Peter 1:21)

This is true **revelation**—that which comes from God through His chosen servants.

Yet if these words were only spoken, they might have faded with the generation that heard them. That's why they were written—so they could be preserved from one generation to the next. And for that writing to happen, not only **revelation**, but **inspiration** was necessary.

As Paul writes to Timothy:

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness." (2 Timothy 3:16)

That's why the Word brings light into our midst, and the simple gain understanding from it:

"The unfolding of Your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple." (Psalm 119:130)

Sadly, many believers today give more importance to rituals, festivals, or traditions than to the Word of God itself. But none of these things have any real value before God if they distract from His truth. Our focus must not be on religious shadows but on **Christ Himself**, who is the substance.

Paul warns in **Colossians 2:16–17**:

"Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ."

Jesus Himself said:

"The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit and life." (John 6:63)

And again:

"Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit." (John 3:5–6)

How clearly and simply Jesus declared: **His words are Spirit and they are Life**. Without being born of the Spirit, we cannot enter God's Kingdom.

This is why we need the Word of God.

Now ask yourself: *Have you truly been born of the Spirit? Or are you still clinging to the shadows, ignoring the real substance?*

Blessed is our Jesus, and blessed is His love

Led by the Holy Spirit, Guided by Faith and Scripture
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I sincerely thank our respected Guest Speaker, Rev. Shailendra Nanda, for teaching this topic so profoundly and clearly. His guidance has been a great blessing, enriching both my knowledge and faith. May God continue to bless him abundantly.

With gratitude,
Sonu Kumar Saha