



# Holding to His Word

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*(Various Scriptures)*

## Choosing Jesus

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- C** — Choosing Jesus
- H** — Holding to His Word
- O** — Obeying His Commands
- O** — Opening Your Life to Community
- S** — Serving the Kingdom
- I** — Investing in Others
- N** — Nurturing Faithfulness
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## Review

Last session we talked about Choosing Jesus as we looked at the encounter with Jesus and the Rich Young Man from Mark 4.

We learned...

- Only God is truly good
  - Our only hope for eternal life is through Jesus
  - Jesus beckons us to lay down the things of this world (our idols)
  - And choose him, because He is the ultimate treasure
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- The rich young man was unwilling
  - The disciples left everything to follow Jesus
  - Jesus gave a great promise for anyone who lays down everything to follow Him. (See Mark 10 29-30)
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- We learned that choosing Jesus is something we must do every day:

(Luke 9:23) — And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross *daily* and follow me...”

Today we move to the next stage in our Jesus Journey...

## Holding to His Word

## Introduction

● **ILLUSTR:** MY BROTHER CLINGING TO A LIMB TO SAVE HIS LIFE

### What does it mean *to hold*?

- *To hold*: To grip tightly, cling to, or firmly embrace something with determination and trust, refusing to let go even in the face of challenges or distractions.
- When we say “holding to His Word” - it’s not just knowing or hearing Jesus’ words but actively adhering to them—relying on them, trusting them, and letting them shape your life as a disciple. It’s a posture of full dependence, much like my brother clinging to the branch.

### What is the Word of God?

- When we say the Word of God we mean the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament. It is the very Word of God. It is God’s revelation of Himself to man. It is true and without error.
- The Word of God, is the sole authoritative standard for what we believe and how we should live. No other source—whether human tradition, personal opinion, or other writings—has equal authority. The Scriptures alone provide the complete and sufficient guidance for knowing God, understanding His will, and living in a way that pleases Him.

## ◆ #1 — The Word of God is Alive and Powerful

**(John 1:1–5) —**

In the beginning was *the Word*, and the *Word was with God*, and the *Word was God*.<sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God.<sup>3</sup> All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.<sup>4</sup> In him was life, and the life was the light of men.<sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

**(John 1:14) —**

And the *Word became flesh* and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

### Jesus is the Word of God (and He is God)

- (Verse 1 & 14) — <sup>1</sup>...and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>14</sup> ...the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

### The Word of God is eternal

- (Verse 1 & 2) — In the beginning was the word...<sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God.
- (Matthew 24:35) — Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words *will not pass away*.
- (Psalm 119:89) — Forever, O Lord, your word is *firmly fixed* in the heavens.
- (Isaiah 40:8) — The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God *will stand forever*

## The Word of God brought everything into being

- (Verse 3) — All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.
- (Genesis 1:1) — In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth...<sup>3</sup> and *God said*...
- (Psalm 33:6) — *By the word of the Lord* the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host.
- (Hebrews 11:3) — By faith we understand that the universe was created *by the word of God*, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

## The Word of God holds everything together

- (Verse 4) — In him was life, and the life was the light of men
- (Colossians 1:17) — And he is before all things, and in him *all things hold together*.
- (Hebrews 1:3) — ... he *upholds the universe* by the word of his power.

● **ILLUSTR:** HOLDING ALL THINGS TOGETHER (the mystery of the atom)

## The Word of God never fails

- (Isaiah 55:11) — ...so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall *accomplish* that which I purpose, and shall *succeed* in the thing for which I sent it.
- (Joshua 21:45) — Not one word of all the good promises that the Lord had made to the house of Israel had failed; all came to pass.

● **NOTE:** ONLY GOD'S WORDS CAN BE TRUSTED

## ◆ #2 — A True Disciple Abides in God's Word

(John 8:31-32) —

<sup>31</sup> So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you *abide in my word*, you are truly my disciples, <sup>32</sup> and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

### What does it mean *to abide* ?

- *Abide* means — *to remain, stay, or continue in a steadfast and ongoing way*. Specifically in this verse, it implies a deliberate, persistent dwelling in or adherence to Jesus' teaching - *His Word*. It's not a fleeting or casual engagement but a sustained commitment—living in alignment with His truth, letting it shape one's life consistently over time.

● **ILLUSTR:** LIVING IN MY HOUSE vs GOING TO MY CHIROPRACTOR  
(a once a week thing vs an every day thing)

### Abiding in the Word teaches us the truth

- (Vs 32) — "You will know the truth." — The truth about God, about the universe, about ourselves, and about life.
- Why do we need this? Because the devil is a liar and deceiver
  - (John 8:44) — ... *there is no truth in him*. When he *lies*, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and *the father of lies*.
  - (2 Corinthians 11:14) — ...Satan *disguises* himself as an angel of light.
  - (Revelation 12:9) — ...the *deceiver* of the whole world.

● **NOTE:** The first thing we see satan do (in Genesis) is lie about God and basically calls God a liar.

## Abiding in the Word sets us free

- (Vs 32) — “.and the truth will set you free.” — Until we are freed, we are a slave to the enemy and his lies.
- (2 Corinthians 10:4–5) — For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. <sup>5</sup> We destroy *arguments* and every lofty *opinion* raised against the knowledge of God, and take every *thought* captive to obey Christ...

## ◆ #3 — The Word helps us fulfill our destiny

(2 Timothy 3:16-17) —

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> that the man of God may *be complete*, equipped for every *good work*.

- **IMPORTANT:** “*All Scripture is breathed out by God...*” — God is the source and ultimate author of Scripture.

### The Word helps us BE what God made us to BE

- “...*that the man of God may be complete.*” — The God Who *breathed* life into you, has *breathed out* His Word, to make you *complete* (to fashion you into the person He created you to be.)

### The Word helps us DO what God made us to DO

- (Vs 17) — “*Equipped for every good work.*” — There is specific work that God has for each of us.
- (Ephesians 2:10) — For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus *for good works*, which God prepared *beforehand*, that we should walk in them.

### The Word helps us GO where God desires us to GO

- (Psalm 119:105) — Your word is a *lamp* to my feet and a *light* to my path.
- (Proverbs 3:5-6) — Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. <sup>6</sup> In all your ways acknowledge him, and *he will make straight your paths*.

## ◆ #4 — How do we Hold to God's Word?

### (Colossians 3:16) —

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

### Fill your life with the Word of God

- *“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly”*
  - Daily study (quiet times)
  - Music
  - Podcasts
  - Youtube Videos
- *“Teaching and admonishing one another”*
  - Church: Mutual teaching and study of the word (Weekly preaching/teaching, Sunday School, Small Groups)
  - Friendships: have relationships that build you up in the Word and hold you accountable
- We grow best in the context of the Family of God — (Acts 2:42) — And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.
- (1 John 2:24) — Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you too will abide in the Son and in the Father.

Keep the Word in front of you!

If you hold on to the Word, the Word will hold on to you.

## **Closing**

On our Jesus Journey — in order for us to choose Jesus every day (in every way), we have to be **Holding to His Word**.

### **Are you truly holding to the Word of God?**

#### **● QUESTIONS:**

- If someone were to make an assessment of your day to day life, would they find that you are Holding to His Word?
- What changes need to happen in your life right now to ensure that you are Holding to His Word (Every Day) from this time forward?

# ◆ How is Your Relationship to the Word of God?

## What thoughts or emotions come to your mind when I say?

The Law of God — The Commandments of God — The Word of God

## We are going to do a self-evaluation.

Answer the following questions with one of these answers:

- 1) This is true of me    2) This is sometimes true of me    3) This is not true of me

### 1 – I LOVE THE WORD OF GOD.

- (Psalm 119:24) — Your testimonies (statutes) are my delight; they are my counselors.
- (Psalm 119:111) — Your testimonies are my heritage forever, for they are the joy of my heart.
- (Psalm 119:162) — I rejoice at your word like one who finds great spoil.
- (Psalm 119:62) — At midnight I rise to praise you, because of your righteous rules.

### 2 – I LOVE THE WORD OF GOD MORE THAN GREAT WEALTH.

- (Psalm 119:14) — In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches.
- (Psalm 119:72) — The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces.
- (Psalm 119:127) — ... I love your commandments above gold, above fine gold.

### 3 – I'M ALWAYS THINKING ABOUT THE WORD OF GOD

- (Psalm 119:15) — I ... meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways.
- (Psalm 119:97) — Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day.
- (Psalm 119:16) — I ... delight in your statutes; I *do* not forget your word.

### 4 – I LONG FOR THE WORD OF GOD.

- (Psalm 119:20) — My soul is consumed with longing for your rules at all times.
- (Psalm 119:131) — I open my mouth and pant, because I long for your commandments.

### 5 – THE WORD OF GOD HAS BROUGHT DELIVERANCE AND STRENGTH IN MY LIFE.

- (Psalm 119:71) — It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I might learn your statutes.
- (Psalm 119:93) — I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have given me life.
- (Psalm 119:98) — Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me.