

Partner, don't reject parts of God's Word that seem hard. Make a decision to believe and receive everything God said—not just the parts that you prefer! After you hear the Word, believe the Word and receive the Word, you need to speak the Word.



## DON'T BE DECEIVED

**W**e have been ministering all around Europe and Africa—the power of God has been so real in all of these meetings. Men and women who have been raised in traditional churches, or many with no church background at all, are growing in the revelation of the Word and the power of His grace! Glory to God!

One thing I've noticed about the people to whom we minister in Europe and Africa is that they do what *James 1:21* tells us to do. They receive with *"meekness (teachableness) the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls."* They are so hungry for the Word of God that they will arrive early and stay late. Many travel long distances to be in the meetings, and they don't complain about the inconvenience because they desire more of the Word of God!

**Partner, meekness is not weakness! A meek heart is teachable and reachable.** In other words, when a meek person hears God's Word, it doesn't bounce off his heart. But instead, it is planted in the good ground of his heart. When James wrote that the Word was able to *save your souls*, James meant that *it is able to deliver, protect, heal, and preserve your mind, will, and emotions.* Glory to God! **His Word is power!**

Thank God for His anointed Word, but just hearing the Word is not enough to save our souls (minds, wills, and emotions). We've got to do something with the Word we hear!

Partner, you might be familiar with the old saying, *"Sitting in a church doesn't make you a Christian any more than sitting in a garage will make you a car."*

Sitting placidly in a pew on Sunday will not alter your circumstances. Thousands of people walk out of church services every week with the same problems, issues, and sins they had when they walked in! They say that the Word doesn't work for them.

However, I think James called those people out when he wrote, *"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves"* (James 1:22). Partner, I pray that you are not deceiving yourself!

**"Thousands of people walk out of church services every week with the same problems, issues, and sins they had when they walked in! They say that the Word doesn't work for them."**

**The worst deception is self-deception.** Deceived people think they are strong, but they are weak. They assume they are pleasing God, but they're really in trouble! Deceived people are deluded into thinking they're doing everything right when, in reality, they're hardly doing anything at all!

Those who deceive themselves say, *"I tried that faith stuff, and it didn't work."* **However, faith always works, so something must be wrong with their application of faith.** Perhaps they assume that since they went to a church where faith was taught, or had a pastor who knew how to live by faith, or had a grandmother who experienced great miracles by standing in faith, that they too would receive the substance of things hoped for as mentioned in *Hebrews 11:1*. But merely being around the Word of faith will not move mountains. **You have to take faith for yourself and do what the Word says.**

I hope that you listen to my messages online and read articles on our website as well the letters I send to you. They're all full of the Word of God. But honestly, you can listen and read until Jesus comes back, but if you aren't **doing** the Word, you are deceiving yourself!

The word *doer* in *James 1:22* means *performer*. Don't just sit in the audience and watch others act on the Word. Become a performer and enjoy the benefits of living by faith!

**What does it take to be a doer or a performer of the Word?** Before you can do the Word, you have to know what it says. Therefore, the first step is to hear the Word of God. *"Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God"* (*Romans 10:17*). Hearing the Word without acting on it is fruitless, but you've got to hear the Word so you can know what to do! Then you have to decide to accept the Word of God consciously. Every time you hear the Word of God, you have a choice to receive it or to reject it. Self-deceived people hear the Word, but reject the parts they aren't comfortable with.

Partner, don't reject parts of God's Word that seem hard. Make a decision to believe and receive everything God said—not just the parts that you prefer! After you hear the Word, believe the Word and receive the Word, you need to speak the Word. **The most effective way for the Word of God to get into your heart is through your own mouth!** In *Mark chapter 11*, Jesus told us to say more than He told us to pray!

#### **Mark 11:22-24**

And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

Partner, being a doer of the Word begins by being a sayer of the Word. **Your words are powerful!**

Your words can ensnare you. They can trap you into doing something that you shouldn't do!

**Proverbs 6:2**

Thou art snared with the words of thy mouth, thou art taken with the words of thy mouth.

Your words will create death or life! *“Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof” (Proverbs 18:21).*

**When you hear, believe, receive, speak, and act on the Word of God, you will access the power that resides within it.** *Romans chapter one* tells us that the Word of God is the power of God!

**Romans 1:16**

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

The word *power* in *Romans 1:16* is *dunamis* in Greek. It means *the supernatural, miracle-working ability of God*, and it is available to everyone who believes!

That's you—as long as you don't merely hear the Word, but you speak it and act on it! **The Word of God has enough power to free you from every bondage.** It breaks the yoke of sin and death for those who hear it, receive it, believe it, speak it, and do it!

The doing has to be daily. In other words, to qualify as a doer of the Word, you can't do what the Word says one day and do things that oppose the Word the next.

**Doing the Word requires diligence. Diligence is careful and persistent work or effort. You have to develop a habit of hearing, receiving, believing, speaking, and acting on God's Word.** It must become your way of life—not something you try to work up when things go wrong or when you want to impress another Christian! Many prom-

ises in God's Word are connected to diligence. **Consider the following Scriptures:**

**Proverbs 12:24**

The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute.

**Exodus 15:26**

And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the Lord that healeth thee.

**Psalm 119:4**

Thou hast commanded us to keep thy precepts diligently.

A diligent person develops good habits that agree with God's Word. For example, I have a habit of getting out of bed early to pray. I have a habit of studying God's Word every day. I've recently developed the habit of physical exercise because I knew my body needed it to stay strong and healthy.

**Partner, what do you need today?** If you have financial needs, develop the habit of handling your money the way the Word of God says. Be diligent about tithing and giving offerings, and you will always have seed in the ground ready to produce a harvest when you need it!

*Ecclesiastes 11:1-3* says, *“Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days.*

**“Don't just sit in the audience and watch others act on the Word. Become a performer and enjoy the benefits of living by faith! What does it take to be a doer or a performer of the Word? Before you can do the Word, you have to know what it says.”**

*Give a portion to seven, and also to eight; for thou knowest not what evil shall be upon the earth. If the clouds be full of rain, they empty themselves upon the earth: and if the tree fall toward the south, or toward the north, in the place where the tree falleth, there it shall be."*

If you need healing, be a doer of the Word by respecting your body as the temple of the Holy Ghost. *1 Corinthians 6:19* warns, "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" Then speak the Word over your body. *Psalm 107:20* tells us, "He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions."

If you need wisdom, ask God and believe that you receive. He promised to give it to you as long as you don't waver. James, the pastor of Jerusalem, who taught about the vital necessity of being a doer of the Word and not a hearer only, wrote "But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering."

*For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed" (James 1:4-6).*

The Word of God is power, but to initiate the power and keep it flowing, you have to be a consistent doer of the Word—day in and day out! I thank God for you, Partner—that are not self-deceived; you are a doer of the Word, not a hearer only!

Please know that Pastor Deborah and I pray for you daily. You are in our hearts and prayers always. Because of your continued prayers and financial support, we can work to fulfill the assignment that the Lord has given to Keith Butler Ministries. Always remember, together, we will get the job done.

In the Master's Love and Service,



Keith Butler Ministries is dedicated to spreading God's life-revolutionizing message around the world. We are committed to: Ministering to the needs of pastors and ministers through teachings from the Bible via seminars and ministry to individuals or groups that are hungry for God's Word; Assist with strengthening the local church in European countries through the ministry of God's Word; Developing PISTIS Bible Training Centers in the European areas God has assigned KBM; Conducting Faith Seminars throughout Europe. Concerts may be performed as a part of the program in these seminars; Teaching the Word throughout Europe as God opens the doors for KBM.