

When we say a believer should *live by the Word*, what kind of life are we talking about? This is more than just reading the Bible—it's about aligning your thoughts, actions, decisions, and entire lifestyle with the Word of God, which is the revealed will of God.

Let's look at two key aspects of this truth:

1. Living in Obedience to the Word of God

To live by the Word first means we must **know it** and **obey it**. Just like a citizen must know the laws of their nation in order to live lawfully, a child of God must know the Word to live righteously. The Bible says:

"Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You."

—Psalm 119:11 (NKJV)

God's Word acts as a moral compass. It teaches us what pleases God and what He forbids. For example, the Ten Commandments forbid stealing, adultery, murder, and idol worship (Exodus 20:1-17). Jesus expands these moral principles by focusing on the heart: hatred is

equivalent to murder (Matthew 5:21-22), and lust is equivalent to adultery (Matthew 5:27-28).

When the Word says:

- *“Flee sexual immorality”* (1 Corinthians 6:18) — we obey.
- *“Let the women adorn themselves in modest apparel”* (1 Timothy 2:9) — we apply that in our daily dress and lifestyle.
- *“Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength, and love your neighbor as yourself”* (Mark 12:30-31) — we live in love, not hatred.

Obedience to the Word is not optional for a believer. Jesus said:

“If you love Me, keep My commandments.”

—John 14:15 (NKJV)

When we obey the Word, we are building our lives on a firm foundation. Jesus compared such a person to a wise man who built his house on a rock. The storms came—but the house stood (Matthew 7:24-25).

2. Using the Word to Stand Against the Enemy

The second dimension of living by the Word is **spiritual warfare**—using the Word as a weapon against Satan’s lies and attacks. The Bible calls the Word of God “*the sword of the Spirit*” (Ephesians 6:17).

Jesus Himself demonstrated this in the wilderness. When Satan tempted Him, Jesus responded with Scripture every time, saying, “*It is written...*” (Matthew 4:1-11). He defeated the enemy by standing on the authority of God’s Word—not emotions, not logic, but the written Word.

As believers, we are called to do the same. When Satan brings fear, discouragement, or sickness, we fight back with Scripture:

- If he says, “You’re going to die,” you declare:

“I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.”
—Psalm 118:17 (NKJV)

- If he whispers, “You won’t be healed,” you respond:

“By His stripes we are healed.”

—Isaiah 53:5 (NKJV)

- If you feel abandoned or uncertain about your future, you declare:

“The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.”

—Psalm 23:1 (NKJV)

- If you walk through deep sorrow or spiritual dryness, remember:

“When you pass through the waters, I will be with you... they shall not overflow you.”

—Isaiah 43:2 (NKJV)

The Word not only strengthens you—it also silences the voice of the enemy and aligns your heart with the truth of God

Why This Matters

Without the Word, believers are defenseless—easily deceived, discouraged, or defeated. But with the Word hidden in your heart and spoken with your mouth, you walk in authority and victory. Paul reminds us:

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom...”
—Colossians 3:16 (NKJV)

You live by the Word not only for personal growth and holiness but also to know your **rights in Christ**—freedom, healing, identity, and authority in the Spirit.

In Summary: What Does It Mean to Live by the Word?

- It means **obeying God’s Word** in your daily life.

- It means **speaking the Word** to confront trials, temptations, and lies from the enemy.
- It means **relying on Scripture** as your source of wisdom, strength, and victory.
- It means **loving the truth** more than your own opinions or emotions.

“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.”

—Matthew 4:4 (NKJV)

This is what it means to live by the Word. And when you do, you’ll never walk in darkness.

Be blessed, and may the Word of Christ dwell in you richly!

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What Does It Mean to Live by the Word of God?

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