

Seeking God Through Scripture - Ron Stullenbarger -

The pages of Scripture are filled with declarations of the wonderful, mysterious, powerful, and loving nature of our heavenly Father. Scripture is one of God's greatest gifts to His people, who so easily forget the labor of love He has undergone to gain restored relationship with us. The Bible is a companion to those who long to seek and find the invisible God who so greatly desires to be discovered. We need to open our hearts to Scripture and receive revelation on how God longs to use His word to guide us as we seek His face.

In Matthew 4:4 Jesus says, *"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."* Scripture is meant to fill us with life by leading us directly to our heavenly Father. The power of Scripture lies in the fact that its pages are filled with the words of a God who is still active, powerful, and loving. I went years using Scripture incorrectly. I viewed it as a set of rules I needed to read and try to keep rather than as a guide to experiencing the adventure of communion with my heavenly Father. My problem wasn't a lack of will but rather a lack of revelation on God's intention behind authoring the Bible. My problem was that I hadn't experienced a life lived *"by every word that comes from the mouth of God."*

Wherever you are in your understanding of Scripture, know that God longs to fill you with a desire to read the words that will guide you to abundant life. The Holy Spirit longs to speak directly to you through words written thousands of years ago. Our Bible is a powerful miracle safeguarded for the benefit of all who would use it to seek the face of its Creator. May we all have the heart of the Psalmist and grow in our love of Scripture and the God who inspired it:

"Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day. Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me. I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your testimonies are my meditation. I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts. I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep your word. I do not turn aside from your rules, for you have taught me. How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way" (Psalm 119: 97-104).