

# Seeds

“The more I know, the more I know I don’t know.”—Paige Coffey

This seems like an appropriate way to begin on yet another infinite topic—the Word of God. This small devotion cannot possibly cover very much of what the Word of God is, as it is as infinite as God Himself—“the Word was God,” and as infinite as Christ Himself—“the Word became flesh.” So, my purpose in writing is not to try to exhaust the inexhaustible, but to possibly present it to you as a portion of the treasure that it is. I am thankful that the Lord has put me in an assembly where the word of God is valued and known by many of you better than the knowledge I have of it. May we appreciate it together.



With a topic so large it is difficult to know where to start; there are so many verses, so this may seem a bit random as I try to point out some things that I believe the Holy Spirit has brought to my mind. You may know all of this, but to put you in remembrance is worthwhile.

**The slacker does not plow during planting season; at harvest time he looks, and there is nothing.** (Proverbs 20:4 CSB)

Jesus presented and interpreted what we call the Parable of the Sower. He referred to the Word as seeds which He Himself sowed. Every seed had life and potential within it, but the condition of the ground (the heart), and its environment (what was around it or was allowed into the heart) determined its outcome. As Christians we cannot live and grow and bear fruit without the Word of God, and spiritual warfare is necessary to avoid the Word being choked after the seed sprouts. There are so many words to be sown into our hearts. Will we receive what they are capable of providing?

Paul instructed Timothy to study the Word, so he would divide it correctly and not bring himself shame. Timothy was a church leader. His presentation of the Word needed to be untwisted truth that would do no harm to its hearers, but benefit them. We, too, need to study.

**A proverb in the mouth of a fool is like lame legs that hang limp.** (Proverbs 26:7 CSB)  
Such a proverb goes nowhere and accomplishes nothing.

This is interesting: **A proverb in the mouth of a fool is like a stick with thorns, brandished by the hand of a drunkard.** (Proverbs 26:9 CSB) When I see the word *brandished*, I think of a weapon. Contrast this with, **“Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit—which is the word of God.”** It is the Holy Spirit, Whose weapon is the Word of God; He is the one who knows how to use it effectively. Without the Holy Spirit’s leading, we may be wasting our time, or worse, be like the fool causing more hurt and harm than good. I think one of the wisest things I have heard Mike say lately is, “I am not the Holy Spirit.” This is worthwhile for us all to remember. We say the prayers and sow the seeds—spread the word wisely, but the Holy Spirit makes it effective according to God’s purpose.

## Seeds—the “3:16s”:

I remember being asked years ago to fill in for the youth pastor one week. I wanted to encourage the kids to memorize some scripture. I knew that even children could recite John 3:16, so I told them to try to learn more 3:16s; they would already have half of the scripture reference memorized. There are so many good seeds found in various 3:16s of the New Testament. Here are a some:

**“Through faith in the name of Jesus, this man was healed—and you know how crippled he was before. Faith in Jesus’ name has healed him before your very eyes.”**  
(Acts 3:16 NLT)

**Don’t you yourselves know that you are God’s temple and that the Spirit of God lives in you?** (1 Corinthians 3:16 CSB)

**... but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is removed.** (2 Corinthians 3:16 CSB)

**I pray that he may grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with power in your inner being through his Spirit,** (Ephesians 3:16 CSB)

**In any case, we should live up to whatever truth we have attained.** (Philippians 3:16 CSB)

**Let the word of Christ dwell richly among you, in all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another through psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.** (Colossians 3:16 CSB)

**And most certainly, the mystery of godliness is great: He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated in the Spirit, seen by angels, preached among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory.** (1 Timothy 3:16 CSB)

**All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness,** (2 Timothy 3:16 CSB)

**For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there is disorder and every evil practice.** (James 3:16 CSB)

**So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I am going to vomit you out of my mouth.** (Revelation 3:16 CSB)

In these 3:16s we find instructions, encouragement and warnings for both individuals and the congregation as a whole. These are keys to treasure in the Word. The whole Word of God is full of such, not just the 3:16s. For a Christian to think he can go through life without the Word is like thinking you can be a Christian without Christ. What kind of journey would that be?—The journey of a fool, perhaps? Yet many try it, or get slack concerning it.

When we dig into the Word of God, the Holy Spirit reveals truth and reality to us. **When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth. For he will not speak on his own, but he will speak whatever he hears. He will also declare to you what is to come. He will glorify me, because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you.** (John 16:13-14 CSB) The Holy Spirit takes of

Jesus—the Living Word, and reveals it to us. The revelation refreshes us and makes the Word a meaningful part of our lives; even more, it becomes life to us. When He speaks in this way, it is unlikely that we will forget. It is such life-giving revelations that have been the inspiration of so many people to write books, psalms, poetry, and songs that speak to us today.

When I consider that it is the Spirit who wields the sword of the Spirit, I realize that we must let that sword work on us, not just think it is for the other person when in Hebrews 4:12-13 CSB it says, **“For the word of God is living and effective and sharper than any double-edged sword, penetrating as far as the separation of soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. No creature is hidden from him, but all things are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give an account.** Will we allow Him to “operate” on us, our thoughts, our intentions? If we do, that day of accounting will be much less painful.

We cannot know God or grow spiritually in Him without the Word. The Word is the basis of our faith for our prayers and all our hope. It is the Truth that sets us free. It gives us knowledge of the Holy. It is what transforms us.

Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God. Faith is our part, though He has given each of us a measure of faith. All the rest is His Part, and *He has provided for all, His Word.*