

Thank You, Father, for Your **Word**

by Rev. Julia Schwert

Some may say, "It's not important if I open the Bible and read the Word of God. After all, I read my daily devotional and I hear the preached Word." In the physical/natural you might be right; however, in the spiritual we all **must have** the Word of God. In the physical/natural we **must have** water in order to live. Oh, yes, you can get water or moisture from some food you eat; however, your body needs **water!** It is the same in the spirit. Water gives our natural body life. The Word of God gives our spirit man life.

Let me give you an example from nature. We had some weeds in our landscape. As everyone knows, if you don't get rid of them they keep growing and multiply with their relatives moving in! We had sprayed to kill them; however, they still needed to be pulled out. It had been a little time since they were sprayed; therefore, some weeds had begun to grow again, or maybe it was their relatives coming for a visit. Either way they were bugging Brother Butch and needed to come out. Well, where there was mulch, the weeds came out easily because a few days before we had some soaking rain. If you have ever pulled weeds, you know how hard it is to pull them if the ground is dry and hard. The roots seem to go down so far in the dry ground and it is difficult to pull or dig them out.

But as I pulled weeds from around the rock path that leads to our front door, the Lord started showing me something. Sometimes I would pull on a weed and it came out easily; other times I tugged and it didn't seem to want to come out so I dug around it with a garden trowel. Remember, it had rained and although the weeds came out of the soil easily I struggled to get them out from between the stones. I recalled in Luke 8:5-8 Jesus talked about seeds falling on stony ground, among the thorns/weeds, and on good ground. I know Jesus clarified what He was saying in verses 11-15 and said the

seeds were the Word of God. However, as I was pulling the weeds, I thought about how much easier it was to pull them if the soil around the roots was moist. I began to think about our lives and thought about these weeds being sin in our life. We all have something that (if left alone) will continue to hold us back in fulfilling our God purpose.

It is so very important to have the Word of God applied to our spirit man. As we hear and read the Word of God, our spirit man is fed and becomes stronger. As our spirit man becomes stronger, the sin in our life loosens its hold on us and gets weaker; thus, it becomes easier to resist the devil/sin and **it will flee from us.** (James 4:7)

This is why our Bishop says we need to encourage those who **should be saved** to come to the church! It is through the church they will hear the Word of God, and it will rain upon their spirit man. If it rains long enough, it will eventually weaken the hold of sin; thus, enabling the person to express their individual desires, not the desires of the enemy, and become free from the hold that has them bound. Remember, **we are the church!** We **must have** God's Word in us so we can water those around us!

In the natural, anything that is spiritual makes no sense! The Word of God, turning our problems over to God (who we don't see with our natural eyes), believing in Jesus, and allowing the Holy Ghost to flow through our physical body make no sense to our flesh. But, the things which we do not see are **more real** than what we see! The spiritual realm is **more real** than our physical existence!

The Word of God **does cause change!** The Word of God is true! The Word of God shall stand forever. The Word of God is quick and powerful.