

Culture of Hope: Deeply Rooted in God's Word

Reflect

1. What's an influential story you have heard or read?
2. What book have you read, movie you've seen, or story you've heard many times?
3. How has this story influenced your life?

Read Your Bible

- Psalm 1
- Matthew 7:24-25

Apply God's Word to Your Life

1. In Psalm 1 describe "the wicked."
2. Now describe "the blessed."
3. What action distinguishes the wicked from the blessed? Hint: verse 2
4. How do you take delight in Holy Scripture?
5. How do you put into practice what you have read in the Bible?
6. What are the conflicting ideologies that compete for influence in our lives?
7. How does Holy Scripture challenge you?

Conclusion

The Bible is the book I love. Every time I read this Holy Word, I gather something new. It is a book that tells me who God is, who I am, and how much God loves me and you! It speaks of unmeasurable grace that comes to us from Jesus. It also directs my actions in this world. And sometimes that direction brings me into conflict with myself, others, and many ideologies in this world. The Word of God meets us where we are and doesn't leave us there. The Bible is a change agent in our lives,

and we then point to the God found in the book so all other people might see Him. Our calling as God's people is to know this book. Much like a home builder needs to read the blueprints, we too need to know God's story so that it changes us from the inside out. Make reading this book a priority in your life. Read it every day and let Jesus find you there and influence your thoughts and actions.

Pray

Heavenly Father, thank you for Your divine Word that points us to Jesus. Help us to not only hear Jesus' words, but also to act upon them. Help us to be wise in knowledge and in doing Your will. As we meditate on Your word, reshape our hearts to be like that of Jesus' own heart. May we find delight in Your Word. In Jesus', the Word made flesh's name. Amen.