

“Embrace the Word of God”
Navigating Through the Desert Part III
Pastor Jeff Burkholder
July 27, 2008

“He put you through hard times. He made you go hungry. Then he fed you with manna, something neither you nor your parents knew anything about, so you would learn that men and women don't live by bread only; we live by every word that comes from GOD's mouth.”
Deuteronomy 8:3

- I. Foundational Premise:** In order to navigate through the desert, we are dependent upon God and His Word.

“We cannot live without the Word of God! *Never* take it for granted. You should consider it as essential to your life as food.”

The Purpose Driven Life by Rick Warren,
Copyright ©2002 by Rick Warren, p. 186.

- II. When navigating the desert, we need to embrace the Word of God so we can find:**

- A. Strength– Psalm 119:28
- B. Comfort– Psalm 119:50-52
- C. Hope– Psalm 119:114
- D. Understanding– Psalm 119:143-144

III. Conclusion: “It was good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn your decrees. The law from your mouth is more precious to me than thousands of pieces of silver and gold.” Psalm 119:71-72

“There are things to see in the Word of God that our eyes can only see through the lens of tears.”

“Counseling with Suffering People” by John Piper
The Journal of Biblical Counseling, Winter 2003 p. 19.

IV. Response: For me to embrace the Word of God this week, it will mean that I will _____

_____.

“...for most of the 2,000-year history of the church, only priests got to personally *read* the Bible, but now billions of us have access to it. In spite of this, many believers are more faithful to reading their daily newspaper than their Bibles. It’s no wonder we don’t grow. We can’t watch television for three hours, then read the Bible for three minutes and expect to grow.”

The Purpose Driven Life by Rick Warren,
Copyright ©2002 by Rick Warren, p. 188.