

THE UNIVERSAL PANACEA



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Welcome to this Reading Class!

We are confident that an insightful learning experience awaits you. We encourage you to be armed with adequate materials to make your own notes and chronicle the inspirations that will come to you as the Spirit of God ministers to you uniquely.

Now let's get started!

Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, you will understand the following:

- i. The importance of the Word of God in every aspect of man's existence
- ii. The extraordinary ability of the Word to bring solutions to all life's problems and challenges

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Universal – Applicable to all members of a group or set.

Panacea – Hypothetical remedy for all ills or diseases.

INTRODUCTION

Hebrews 4:12 (AMPC)

"For the Word that God speaks is alive and full of power [making it active, operative, energizing, and effective]; it is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating to the dividing line of the breath of life (soul) and [the immortal] spirit, and of joints and marrow [of the deepest parts of our nature], exposing and sifting and analyzing and judging the very thoughts and purposes of the heart"

The Word of God is like the sun. As it shines, everyone receives whatever they require from it. Some need its heat, some the light, while others require some other form of solar energy. In the same vein, the Word is to you what you need it to be. It has the innate ability to affect man at in all three levels of his existence. Its transformative power gives healing and health, encouragement, education, information, illumination, upliftment, prosperity and abundance, understanding, sound counsel and so much more.

Before we proceed, it's important that you understand that not every word in the Bible was spoken by God. Some were spoken by Satan, angels and even men. Our great man of God, Pastor Chris, defined the Word of God as: any statement, declaration, message, thought or instruction that is consistent with God's plan, purposes and will in Christ Jesus concerning a person, place or thing. The Word never fails. It guarantees absolute victory in all circumstances, which is why it is referred to as the Universal Panacea. This is because it has the ability to meet all the needs of Man who is essentially a spirit, having a soul and living in a body. There's no need of Man in any of these three realms of living that is outside the jurisdiction of God's Word.

1. THE NATURE OF MAN

"And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thessalonians 5:23).



Man is a spirit being that has a soul and lives in a body. It is very important to understand the peculiarity of this human framework. From the scripture above, it must be established that the spirit comes

first, not the body, because it's the most important being. Basically, man is a spirit. The human spirit is the real you; you're not a physical body. Your physical body is the house where you live.

Intrinsically, we have the outward man and the inward man. Apostle Paul clearly distinguishes between the two when he said, *"For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day"* as found in **2 Corinthians 4:16**. The outward man is

the physical body having its five senses of sight, hearing, smell, touch, and taste. These senses are man's medium for relating with his environment. The human body can only receive information from this world through its five senses. The inward man, however, is the human spirit and his soul (the seat of his mind, will and emotions). The "inward man" is the real you. He's not seen with the natural eyes, because he's the "man within the man"; the real person living in the physical body. That's the one who receives Christ's salvation and relates with God. When you believed and confessed the Lordship of Jesus, it wasn't your body (the outward man) who was reborn; it was your inward man—your human spirit. So, with your spirit, you relate with God. With your soul, you relate with the intellectual things and emotions, and with your body, you contact the physical world.

2. THE WORD BEYOND THE WRITTEN PAGES

There's something beyond the letters on the pages of the Bible; it's the Spirit of God. When you study the Bible like a book that's full of religious history, the information you'll receive from it would be void of revelation knowledge. Until God, through His Spirit, stands up in the book, all you'll have is theology. Without the Holy Spirit, the Bible would be mere literature; but when a Christian full of the Holy Spirit reads and acts on it, it produces life!



In our interaction with the Word, we have the 'logos' and the 'rhema'. 'Logos' is the revealed Word of God that expresses His thoughts, character, plans, purposes and personality. But 'rhema' is the active word from God to a specific person, for a specific purpose, at a specific time. In other words, every rhema-word you receive from God has power. Until God's Word becomes 'rhema' to you, it will not change your situation. The 'rhema' of

God is the sword of the Spirit by which you prevail against the adversary. So when you're facing challenges, meditate on God's Word that addresses your peculiar situation, energise your spirit by speaking in tongues, declaring God's Word. Keep talking the Word until it becomes personal to you. It is your declaration of God's Word (rhema) that causes the necessary changes required in situations and circumstances.

God's Word is powerful - having the ability to produce in you what it talks about. Nonetheless, God's Word is likened to a seed, and for any seed to germinate, the right environment and conditions necessary for germination must be present. In the same way, God's Word to you won't produce any results except you create the right environment-the environment of faith. The Word might encounter restrictions or resistance but those who receive the Word and speak the Word by faith can change any situation. When you receive the Word into your spirit, it brings life and effects changes.

Therefore, put your confidence in the ability and power of the Word. Refuse to speak negative words that could hinder its results; create an environment of faith so it can prevail and bring healing to your body and any other change you require. You must believe the Word, meditate on it and then act on it. Put to work in your own life what God has said concerning you. Personalize God's Word and it will become a reality in your life.

3. THE WORD AS A UNIVERSAL PANACEA

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." (Hebrews 4:12)

We previously defined a panacea to be a solution or remedy for all difficulties or diseases. As a universal panacea, the Word of God provides solutions for whatever a man may face in this life.

With the understanding that Man is essentially a spirit being having a soul and living in a body, his needs, challenges or trials will be centred around these three realms of life. Thus, we will examine them in this light.

1. THE HUMAN SPIRIT:

The worst state of the human spirit is alienation or separation from God. There is the need for every man to be saved. This is because Salvation reconciles you to God. It makes your human spirit His dwelling place at the new birth.



Not only does God want you saved, He also wants you to grow up spiritually. **Acts 20:32** reveals that God's Word is the main tool that He uses in building us up and bringing us into the inheritance He has given us. Thus at whatever stage of development a child of God is, the Word is the perfect nourishment required for him. It is milk for the babes in Christ (**1 Peter 2:2**) and strong meat for those who are more mature (**Hebrews 5:14**).

Whether or not you're successful in life depends on the character of your spirit; but the beautiful thing is that your spirit can be developed or trained. Your spirit is malleable; which means that it can be changed, and the material with which that can be done is the Word of God. You have the life and nature of God in you now – the nature of righteousness (**2 Corinthians 5:21**). Therefore, it is natural for you to produce fruits unto righteousness.

Love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control, as listed in **Galatians 5:22-23**, are features or fruits of your recreated human spirit. Always be mindful that the quality of your spirit determines the quality of your life. Thus, constantly condition your spirit with the Word to be who God has made you to be.

II. THE HUMAN SOUL:



The soul is the seat of the mind, will, and emotions. It is the part of our being that carries out our thinking processes. Thoughts are very powerful; they have both constructive and destructive

potentials, and can ultimately determine the course of one's life. One of the attributes of the Word of God is that it reveals His thoughts for you, and has the ability to produce in you and for you what it talks about you. Therefore when you meditate on the Word of God, it is visions of success, possibilities and victories that flood your mind. This is the reason you must have Word-based thoughts at all times. Jesus said **in John 6:63**: "...the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life".

Remember, you're the character of your thoughts (**Proverbs 23:7**). Thus, when you continually flood your spirit with the Word, the thoughts that emanate from you will be quality thoughts- the high thoughts of God that the ordinary mind cannot fathom. Word-based thoughts produce Word-based actions, which in turn produce Word-based results. The transformation you desire in your finances, health and family are dependent on you, not God. His Word is settled in heaven, but you must settle it on earth through faith that emanates from your Word-based thoughts.

Now we will briefly examine some common challenges emanating from the human soul experiences, and the remedies provided by the Word:

1. Depression

"Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever: for they are the rejoicing of my heart." (Psalms 119:111)

If Christians aren't happy or excited about themselves or about life, it's for one simple reason: they've ignored the Word of God. Your happiness as a Christian isn't dependent on your circumstances or situations. Happiness is one of the results of joyfulness, and joyfulness is a fruit of your recreated human spirit, nourished through the Word of God. Your happiness should not be because things are going on smoothly; it shouldn't be dependent on the good things going on with you or around you. Otherwise, those who live in the best houses, and have the best things of life would be the happiest people in the world. But this isn't the case. There're people who committed suicide while others wondered, "What could have gone wrong? Everything was all right; he had the best family, he had enough money. Why in the world did he kill himself?" What they probably didn't realize is that happiness doesn't come from any of those things. It's one of the blessings that joy produces in you: joy that only comes through the Word and the Spirit of God. Your happiness is your responsibility and should not depend on anyone. You have to make yourself happy continually, because your happy spirit dictates everything about your life. If for any reason, you're feeling downcast or unhappy, get into the Word and fan the embers of your joy.



2. Anxiety

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7 NIV)



The Lord Jesus is the only one who gives the kind of peace that man really needs. That peace is power over crises; meaning that, in the midst of the storms, troubles, and pressures of life, you're unperturbed – full of joy and happiness. You don't have to struggle through life or be buffeted by the pressures of life; Christ is your power over crises! He's given you so much peace that He has left no place for fear. It makes no difference the turmoil, distress, and troubles in today's world, refuse to fear, for the Creator of the whole world loves and cares for you (**1 Peter 5:7**). His unconquerable wings of protection are spread over you. Let His peace rule in your heart, and be anxious for nothing.

3. Fear

"For God has not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind" (2 Timothy 1:7).

Fear is a spirit. It is actually faith in the ability of the enemy to defeat you. That's why you should never allow fear in your heart, the same way you shouldn't allow unbelief, bitterness, and anger.



These are all tools in the hands of the adversary which can open the door for Satan to plunder people's lives. You may ask: "What if a Christian already allowed devils into his or her life unknowingly

through any of the aforementioned avenues?" Praise God that there's a way out. That's where the power of God's Word comes into play. If that individual would study and meditate on the Word of God, he wouldn't even require to be prayed for. The same way those devils came in, they'd also leave without announcement. God's Word is light, and when light comes, darkness will, and must flee. It's the same cure for fear. As you receive God's Word, faith comes to you, dispelling fear. And as fear leaves, so does the spirit of fear. God's word is the answer. It's what you need for the glorious, excellent and victorious life. The Word is the most important thing in your life.

4. Lust

"Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: but every man is tempted when he is drawn away of his own lust and enticed (James 1:13-14)



Temptation comes when one is drawn away of his own lust and enticed. One can lust for anything; a place, a person, or even for something new. Instead of being carried away with lust, you ought

to subject your thoughts to the Word of God to help you get rid of inordinate desires. In **2 Chronicles 18:21**, God said the spirit would succeed in enticing Ahab; why? The reason is clear: the man was already drawn by His own lust. When people are enticed by their own lust, they go astray. Let God's words guide your decisions and the choices you make. His Word is a lamp unto your feet, and a light unto your path (**Psalm 119:105**). Be sure the strong desire you have is consistent with God's Word! Until you're sure that it is, don't take any action. Pray in the Spirit, and study the Word until you have the "green

light" to proceed. God's Word gives you direction. It helps you to understand God's perfect will. When you know His Word, no matter what your senses tell you, you'll be able to discern God's perfect will. His perfect will for you, a lot of times, can be different from what your feelings or other signs tell you. Therefore, trust His Word and the Spirit to guide your affairs.

5. Mental Dullness

"The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding to the simple" (Psalm 119:130).



The second part of the scripture above says, "...it giveth understanding unto the simple". Other synonyms for the Hebrew word translated "understanding" are discretion, apprehension, perception,

and comprehension. This lets you know that the Word of God will give you extraordinary sagacity. When the Word gets into your spirit, itmingles with your spirit. And then as you meditate on it through your mind, you transmit that Word back to every part of your body, and it affects every part of your being. The reason for this is that the Word, through the agency of the Holy Spirit, has infused your mentality with divine ability. Therefore, your ability to conceptualize broadens to extraordinary amplitude; you become super-intelligent. Glory to God.

6. Infirmitiess of the mind:

"For the Word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12).

Sometimes, when people are sick in their bodies, the real problem is beyond the symptoms that are apparent in their physical bodies. Such illnesses might stem from their minds; such that even that even when they're healed in their bodies, the sickness continues, because it was really a problem of the mind. The solution is consistent meditation on the word to reprogram their minds for total restoration (**Romans 12:2**).



III. THE HUMAN BODY:



All over the world, we hear about outbreaks of diseases and several health challenges. In most cases, these health issues are attacks from satan against the human body. The forces of darkness

are not resting; they want people sick and helpless. If you want to live above the dominion of the forces of darkness in the world, especially in these last days, you must fill your mind with God's Word. You must keep your eyes on the Lord. The way to set your gaze on Him isn't as you would a picture on the wall, but through His Word in your heart, keeping your focus on the image and vision of who you are in Him and what He's made you - that's meditation. As you behold or contemplate the glory of God, you are metamorphosed; you understand what it means to be in Him, and for Him to be in you (**2 Corinthians 3:18**). When you recognize yourself in Him, and Him in you, sickness, disease, and infirmities will be defeated in your life and living in divine health will be your daily experience.

There is a beautiful testimony our dear man of God once shared about how a young lady who suffered from a blood condition and fibroids got healed by meditating on the Word of God. In her account, she said her doctor had already given up on her. Even if medical science could do something about the fibroids, her blood condition had no known medical cure. So the doctors informed her that she had only but a few weeks to live. More so, she had to be placed on strict medication to keep her alive for those few weeks. She soon heard about the ministry of the man of God and decided to get some of his tapes and books. While listening to a particular message, a verse of scripture from the book of Proverbs struck her: *"For they (The Word) are life unto those that find them, and health (medicine) to all their flesh"* (**Proverbs 4:22**). Suddenly, it dawned on her that if she could subject herself to the medication from the doctor, which could only give her temporary relief, she could also put herself under the therapy of God's Word for a permanent cure. She meditated on this scripture for some weeks, declaring the words to herself. Sometime later, when she got to the hospital for her routine check-up, the doctors made a startling discovery: her blood condition was completely healed and the fibroids had disappeared. Glory to God! This lady discovered the Word and held on to it as medicine for her body and it worked; she was healed! The Word of God went through her blood and cleansed her of her blood condition.

The Word of God always works! God's Word is medicine and will vitalize every part of your body. God sent His word to you to bring you out of sickness. Hold on to His Word, for with it you can receive your healing and walk in divine health. There's healing power in God's Word, and all that's needed to make that power available is the declaration of the Word. God's Word is loaded with healing power, and that power is activated when the Word is spoken. You can do the same today, declare the Word, and release the healing power over your body. You are God's offspring; therefore you're born a king and not a commoner. Be aware of your heritage. Walk in this

consciousness. Take full advantage of your kingly ministry as a believer. Kings reign; therefore reign in life as the king that you are, and the devil, his cohorts, sicknesses, and diseases will respond to your decrees.

CONCLUSION

Whatever challenge or difficult situation man may face, God's word is the ultimate and universal panacea. God's children have to study and meditate on the scriptures consistently until the Word gets into their spirit; reprogramming them for healing, success, intelligence, and whatever it is they desire. The Word of God in your spirit is all that truly matters. When you search the scriptures and learn the Word, take a hold of it and allow it to have access into your spirit through meditation. Meditating on the Word is indeed the answer to the challenges of life. It puts us at a completely different level from the rest of the world, and makes us better at whatever it is we do. With the Word in you, you'd realize you can neither be stranded nor defeated by life's challenges. This is the ministry of the Word of God in your life. This is God's plan for His children.

We trust you have been immensely blessed by this Reading Course and invite you to avail yourself of other insightful courses on our school website, all tailor-made to enhance your spiritual growth and empower you with requisite knowledge, such that your results in ministry are pleasing to the Lord and evident for all to see.

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