

Take 5!

5 Verses, 5 Questions, 5 Minutes

Got Word?



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Please take a moment to get quiet before your Lord and Savior and ask Him to cleanse your heart from any sin. Now ask Him to fill you with His Holy Spirit and open the eyes of your heart.

Please read Proverbs 4:1-5.

What two things does the writer of Proverbs ask us to do in verse 1?

The Hebrew word for *hear* used in this text is *shama'* (This is one of my favorite Hebrew words!). The *shama* type of hearing does not mean simply hearing; in one ear and out the other. *Shama'* means "to hear, hear with attention or interest, to give heed, to obey to be obedient" (BLB). In this case as the old saying goes "to hear is to obey."

What does God want us to hear and heed (verse 2)?

Now please fill in the missing words for verse 4:

"Let your _____ my words;
_____ my commands and _____."

The NKJV says: "Let your heart retain my words; keep my commands and live."

We are to retain and store up God's Word; not in a notebook, or in a file, or in our heads but in our hearts.

Let's look at the original meanings behind the words we filled in above.

Retain: "to grasp, lay hold of, attain, to be seized, *to take hold of each other.*" I want to take hold of God's Word so it will take hold of me!

Heart: "heart, soul, mind, knowledge, thinking, reflection, memory, inclination, determination, moral character, seat of: appetites, emotions, passions and courage." When we store God's Word in our heart it will affect every part of our being!

Keep: "guard, watch, protect, save life, treasure, beware, have charge of, preserve." When we guard, watch, protect and preserve God's Word it will in turn guard, watch, protect and persevere us.

Live: "restore life, revive, revive from: sickness, discouragement, faintness, death, cause to grow, live prosperously, live forever." A constant dose of God's Holy Word will bring us health, restoration and hope!

At this stage of your life, which of God's commands do you need to keep in order to bring new life to specific issue? What is God currently teaching you?

What must we do in order to benefit from God's Word (verse 5)?

We must remember His Word and we must turn toward His Word. In the original language *forget* means "cease to care, wither and ignore." Yikes! That is so different from a simple "It just slipped my mind!" We don't ever want to get to the point where we don't care about God's Word! However, if at this point in your life you can honestly say God's

Word isn't very important to you, there is still hope! Ask Him to change your heart and give you a burning desire for more of Him. Then dedicate yourself to studying His word whether you feel like it or not. Right feelings will follow right actions!

What can you do to *remember* and *turn toward* God's Word?

Please remember God's Word never comes back empty! So Word up!

All Greek or Hebrew definitions are taken from Brown Driver Briggs or Blue Letter Bible.

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