

Enthroned the Word of God: No More Postponing!

Introduction: A Funny but Real Struggle

Have you ever bought a Bible with the full intention of reading it daily, only to let it collect dust on a shelf? Or started a Bible reading plan, only to drop off somewhere in Leviticus? You're not alone! Many of us have good intentions, but when it comes to actually **enthroning the Word of God** in our lives, we often postpone it like a New Year's resolution that fades by February.

But today's readings remind us: the Word of God is not just a book—it is life, joy, and strength!

The Joy and Power of God's Word (Nehemiah 8:2-10)

In the first reading, we see the people of Israel gathered as Ezra the priest reads the Law. The people **stand for hours**, listening attentively. When was the last time we got that excited about the Bible? Imagine announcing a 5-hour Bible reading session in your parish. How many would come? 🙏

But here's the powerful part: **the people weep!** They realize how far they have drifted from God's Word. Yet, Nehemiah tells them, *"Do not be saddened...for rejoicing in the Lord is your strength!"*

Lesson: God's Word is not just about guilt—it's about joy! When we listen, it revives our soul.

Jesus: The Living Word (Luke 4:14-21)

In the Gospel, Jesus returns to His hometown, unrolls the scroll of Isaiah, and declares:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me... He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives!"

And then, **He drops a bombshell:** *"Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."*

The people were shocked. Some marveled, others resisted. But Jesus was clear: **God's Word is not just for hearing—it demands a response.**

Lesson: The Word of God is Jesus Himself! To enthrone the Word is to enthrone Christ in our lives.

Why Do We Postpone Reading the Bible? (Psychological Reasons)

Many of us **procrastinate** when it comes to deepening our relationship with God. Why?

1. **Fear of Change** – God's Word transforms us, and deep down, we fear letting go of certain habits.
2. **Guilt and Unworthiness** – Like the people in Nehemiah's time, we may feel overwhelmed by how much we have ignored God's voice.
3. **Distractions and Busyness** – We prioritize social media, Netflix, and work, thinking *"I'll read the Bible when I have more time."*
4. **Perceived Difficulty** – Some think, *"The Bible is too hard to understand,"* so they avoid it altogether.

How to Enthroned the Word of God Practically

Let's make this simple! Here are **5 easy ways** to let the Bible truly guide our steps:

1. **Start Small, but Be Consistent** – Read just one passage a day. Even 5 minutes with Scripture is better than none!
2. **Pray Before Reading** – Ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart. The Bible is not just information—it's a conversation with God!
3. **Make it Visible** – Place a Bible in a special place in your home. Seeing it daily reminds you to open it.
4. **Join a Bible Study or Accountability Group** – Reading with others keeps you motivated.
5. **Apply One Verse a Day** – Don't just read—live it! Choose one verse and ask, "*How can I apply this today?*"

Final Thought: The Bible is Your Love Letter from God

Imagine receiving a heartfelt letter from someone who loves you deeply. Would you leave it unread? Yet, God's Word is a love letter written for you! **Don't postpone it. Enthroned it!**

Let's echo the Psalmist today:

"Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life!" (Psalm 19:8-10).

Amen! 🙏📖