

This past Sunday, Pastor George ministered,

***“The Principle of Total Immersion.”***

**Southwest Believers Convention** will be Monday, July 29 through Saturday, August 3, 2024. One of the main purposes for this convention is to allow you to have total immersion in the Word of God.

*Psalm 1:1-3; (NKJV)*

*“Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.”*

*V. 2-3 (AMPC) “He habitually meditates, ponders and studies by day and night. Everything he does shall prosper and come to maturity.”*

Quote from **“The Blessing of the Lord”** book by Kenneth Copeland:

For the Word to produce results in your life, you must give it your attention by spending time **studying it** and **meditating on it**.

“How much attention do I have to give it, Brother Copeland?”

“That depends on the kind of results you want.

- 10% Word will produce 10% results.
- 50% Word will give you 50% results.
- 100% Word will give you 100% results.”

“When I first began learning about faith as a student at ORU in 1967, I needed major results fast. I jumped in at the 100% level. I used a technique I read about that the US government used to train translators during World War II called, **“Total Immersion.”**

At the beginning of the war, there wasn't time for translators to become fluent at the normal rate. To speed up the process, they were surrounded 100% by the language they were learning.

Research proved if they didn't hear or speak anything but that language, it literally made new grooves in their brains, and they became fluent in six weeks or less. [These grooves, called dendrites increase with the frequency a behavior is performed.]

**While thinking about that, the Lord spoke to me. “Son, if you will do that — if you will totally immerse yourself in the Word and give yourself to it for just a period of a week, it will change your entire future. It will change the direction of your life. Your faith will rise to a new level and will never go back.”**

I decided to put it to the test. I got my Bible, a notebook and a few tapes on faith I had by Kenneth E. Hagin and set up a study hall in our little garage. I told Gloria that if she called me for a meal and I wasn't there in five minutes, go ahead without me. I am going to feed on the Word. I locked myself in there for seven days. The only time I came out was to eat occasionally, or to go to sleep at night. When I did come out, the only thing Gloria and I talked about was faith and the Word.

By the end of that seven-day period, the Word became the solid foundation of my life. **In one week**, The Word changed my thinking. It revolutionized the way I saw things.

From that time, faith became my way of life. I did not live by faith just now and then or when I found myself in church. I did it every day. It was the Principle of Total Immersion that launched Gloria and me into our ministry in 1967 while attending Kenneth Hagin's quarterly ten-day seminars.

Later in our ministry, the Lord spoke to me about conducting meetings where people would totally immerse themselves in the Word of God. The Lord said that there were those who are hungry enough to sit under that kind of intense exposure.

If people would totally immerse themselves in God's Word for one week, they could accelerate the renewing of the mind process. Their intensive exposure would flush out fear and replace it with faith. They could go from the milk of God's Word to the meat in a much shorter time.

The longer they remained in that atmosphere, the more sensitive they would become to the voice of the Lord, and the leadings of the Holy Spirit. **Answers would come quickly. Direction would manifest clearly."**

A major benefit of total immersion is the renewing of our mind.

Romans 12:1-2; (NKJV)

*"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."*

Conformed (in the Greek) = To comply with the rules, standards and ways of the world.

Transformed (the Greek word is METAMORPHOO) = Undergo a complete change in words, thinking, actions, and appearance.

*V. 2 (JBP) "Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mold, but let God remold your minds from within, so that you may prove in practice that the plan of God for you is good, meets all His demands and moves towards the goal of true maturity."*

- "Total immersion will accelerate the renewing of the mind."
- "Flush out fear. Replacing fear with faith."
- "Milk to meat quickly."
- "More sensitive to His voice and leadings."
- "Answers come quickly."
- "Direction manifest clearly."

## **A Renewing of the Mind Example**

*Acts 14:1-10;*

*V. 3 “Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands.”*

*Vv.6-7, “They were aware of it, and fled unto Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and unto the region that lieth round about: And there they preached the gospel.”*

*Vv. 8-10, “And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked: The same heard Paul speak: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed, Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked.”*

- The man became totally immersed in Paul's teaching sessions.
- Faith rose up in him and he was healed.

## **Total Immersion Produces Courage & Spiritual Strength**

*Joshua 1:1-9; (NKJV)*

- Moses died and Joshua was faced with the responsibility of leading the children of Israel into Canaan land.
- He was obviously dealing with fear because the Lord kept telling him, “Be strong and of a good courage.” (3x)
- The key to his success would be found in the application of total immersion.

*V. 8 “This book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.”*

Vv. 9-11 *"Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest. Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying, Pass through the host, and command the people, saying, Prepare you victuals; for within three days ye shall pass over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land, which the LORD your God giveth you to possess it."*

Fear was completely flushed out and faith rose up in Joshua's heart. His mind was renewed to God's Word!

**As a congregation, we received communion in preparation for the convention. Pastor George asked:**

1. What answers and directions do you need for your life?
2. What challenges are you facing?
3. What are you believing for now, and what are you putting your faith towards for the convention? **Make a list and step out in faith and expectation.**
4. Total immersion and constant exposure in the Word will renew your mind – make plans to be there all week, immersing yourself in the corporate anointing, and the power of the Word.
5. Remind yourself, and the enemy that you are covered, protected and guarded by the Blood of Jesus Christ (Hebrews 9:14; 10:19).