

Hebrews 4:12 – “The Word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

PRAYER IS TALKING AND LISTENING TO GOD (PART I)

Prayer can't be separated from the Word of God. Prayer is a two-way communication. It is talking and listening. When you meditate on the Word, listen for God to speak to you. When you make requests, God expect God to hear you as you talk to Him. Three things describe the Word in this passage: (1) It is living. Two Greek words combine to translate the “living” – judge and revive. When we receive the Word of God, the Holy Spirit discerns our inward thoughts and motives. When we respond to the Word, we are revived. (2) It is powerful. That means the Word is active and operative in our own spirit. (3) It is sharp. The Word cuts as if by a single stroke. When the Word speaks to us, the Holy Spirit convicts us, revives us, operates in us, in order to cut out what is bad and harmful. The Word penetrates the depths of our inner being, separating the soul and the spirit. The Word discerns the desires of the soul from the desires of the Spirit . Through our human spirit we discern the conviction of the indwelling Holy Spirit (John 3:5; Ezekiel 36:35-37). The Word also divides the joints and marrow. Marrow is a soft substance in the cavities of bones, in which blood cells are produced. When the joints and marrow are divided, new health and energy flow into the body. The dividing of the soul and spirit is a description of the physical healing of God's Word. Bone marrow relieves joint pain and reduces inflammation in the joints, producing a curative effect on the body. Last, the Word is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. The Word of God judges our thoughts and motives. Meditating on the Word is a form of prayer. The Word speaks as clearly to us as Jesus did when He talked to Peter or Paul.. Meditating on the Word is the listening side of prayer. Jesus began every day by listening to the Father. “He awakens Me morning by morning. He awakens My ear to hear as the Learned. If you want to pray like Jesus, let God awaken your ear to His Word.