How Does the Bible

Have the Power to Change Lives?

Biblical Authority Devotional: Inspiration, Part 10

by Chris Russell

One of the greatest miracles God performs on a regular basis is that of a changed life.

For 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. (Hebrews 4:12)

<u>In God We Trust</u> takes a deeper look at living a truly <u>God</u>-focused life. You'll learn not only to defend your faith according to the authority of God's Word, but also to live it out in every part of life.

Today's big question: how does the Bible have the power to change lives?

One of the greatest miracles God performs on a regular basis is that of a changed life. Every year, around the world, untold millions of lives are delivered from afflictions such as substance abuse, destructive/self-destructive habits, emotional wounds, etc. This is in addition to the multitudes set free from the bondage many face in lying, stealing, cheating, lashing out in anger, and other similar types of "common sins." Those of us who have been changed experience a real power of God that accompanies new life in Christ.

One of God's primary tools for affecting change is the <u>Bible</u>. But what is it about this collection of writings that empowers lives to be changed in such amazing ways?

The key to understanding this power is to grasp that the Bible is the Word of God and not just a collection of inspirational writings that were penned by great philosophers. The Bible is distinct from every other manuscript in history in that it is indeed the Word of God to man (2 *Timothy 3:14–16*).

The writings of man may be able to amuse, educate, or even enlighten in some ways, but the Word of God actually has the ability to change lives forever. The Bible presents the words that have emanated from the mind and heart of the Creator. These words carry a power that is unparalleled by any other written work.

When a person opens his heart to reading, learning, and studying the Scriptures, he will begin to see himself and God like never before. He will understand his true condition—sinful before a holy God—and the gift of forgiveness through the finished work of <u>Jesus</u> Christ on the cross. He will begin to grasp the power of the Holy Spirit that will enable him to turn from his <u>sin</u> and enjoy a life of great joy. And he will see a miraculous change begin to take place in his life as he goes deeper into God's Word over time. What an amazing Book!

Today's big idea: the Bible has the power to change your life forever, so fill your heart and mind with it every day!

What to pray: ask God to use His Word to change your life forever for His glory.