

## BECOMING: Rewired By The Word!

Scripture used: [Matthew 4:2-4 \(NLT\)](#); [Matthew 27:45-50 \(NLT\)](#)

### OVERVIEW

More people today are expressing a desire to grow closer to God—often in response to a world marked by uncertainty, conflict, and instability. But while the desire is increasing, many struggle with *how* to actually grow. Throughout this series, we've explored practical ways to become more like Jesus through spiritual disciplines such as Sabbath, solitude, fasting, and prayer. This week introduces a foundational practice that underpins them all: memorizing Scripture. Jesus modeled a life deeply rooted in God's Word. In the wilderness, He resisted temptation not through debate, but by recalling Scripture: *"It is written."* On the cross, in His most painful moment, He cried out using the words of Psalm 22, demonstrating that even in suffering, His mind and heart were anchored in God's truth. The message is clear: when God's Word is internalized, it becomes available in every moment—especially when we need it most. We cannot rely solely on external tools or occasional exposure. Transformation requires intentional, repeated engagement with Scripture.

### KEY POINTS

1. **Jesus is our model for internalizing Scripture.** Jesus consistently responded to life's defining moments through the truth of Scripture. Rather than relying on instinct or emotion, He drew from what had already been formed within Him. His example shows that a life grounded in God's Word produces clarity and conviction when it matters most.
2. **We internalize Scripture through intentional practice.** Scripture becomes part of us through consistent rhythms—reading, meditating, studying, and memorizing. This is an active process of filling our minds with God's truth so that it begins to shape how we think, speak, and act over time.
3. **Memorization requires effort but transforms how we live.** What we repeatedly take in will ultimately shape our inner life. As Scripture is committed to memory, it becomes a source of guidance: *"Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path"* ([Psalms 19:105 \(NLT\)](#)). Scripture also becomes a means of renewal, as we are transformed by the renewing of our minds ([Romans 12:2 \(NRSV\)](#)). It also trains our focus toward what is true, honorable, and praiseworthy ([Philippians 4:9 \(NLT\)](#)). When God's Word is stored within us, it strengthens us to respond wisely, resist temptation, and remain anchored in every season of life.

### DISCUSSION

- 1) **HEAR** - God's Word is not meant to stay on the page. It is meant to live within us. Jesus showed us that Scripture is most powerful when it is internalized. In moments of temptation or suffering, what we have stored in our hearts will shape how we respond.
- 2) **UNDERSTAND** - What fills your mind on a daily basis? If Scripture renews our minds, what would it look like for you to intentionally replace negative or anxious thought patterns with God's truth? Where might you need God's Word most right now?
- 3) **DO** - Commit to memorizing two Scriptures this week through daily repetition. Continue the PF40 commitment: 15 minutes of daily prayer and praying daily for 5 people