



## Repentance Tabernacle Church

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### God's Cleansing Word!

**Scripture:** Psalm 119:11 - Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

The phrase "Thy word have I hid in my heart" from Psalm 119:11, means that the psalmist has hidden God's word and kept it close, prioritizing it above all else and seeking to live in accordance with its teachings. It's a declaration of faith and commitment to God's word, emphasizing its transformative power in the believer's life. This isn't about literally hiding a physical book. It signifies internalizing God's word through memorization, meditation, and reflection. So that He can speak to you and show you how you ought to live.

**Memorization** – The process of committing something to memory or learning something by heart. **Meditation** – Involves dwelling on God's Word, specifically Scripture, with a receptive heart and a desire to understand its meaning and application to your life. It's not about emptying your mind, but filling it with the truth of God's Word. Focused on God's Word and His attributes. **Reflection** – A process of thoughtful introspection about beliefs, experiences, and feelings related to one's spiritual life to bring clarity, peace, and purpose. Thinking back over Spiritual experiences.

A person certainly cannot hide the Word of God in his/her heart unless he reads it or hears it spoken. Therefore, it is necessary that we develop a love for the Word. **While motivational stories can produce an emotional response, the Word accomplishes a lasting work on the heart.** Storing God's Word in our heart is a deterrent to sin. This alone should inspire us to memorize Scripture. But memorization alone will not keep us from sin; we must also put God's Word to work in our life, making it a vital guide to everything we do.

When you hide God's Word in your heart refers to the innermost part of the soul, the seat of emotions, thoughts, and desires. The word's has the ability to guide, protect, and prevent sin, leading to a life of righteousness. In essence, the phrase signifies a deep commitment to God's word, seeking to let it shape one's thoughts, actions, and overall life, leading to a more righteous and fulfilling existence.

**There is a difference between studying God's word and hiding it in your heart?** If you memorize the whole Bible but are not being transformed by it, then you're not hiding God's word in your heart. Conversely, if you are allowing the truth of God to guide you, teach you, admonish you, and form you, then you are hiding it in your heart, even if you can't perfectly quote dozens of biblical passages.

When God's Word is in a person's heart, he no longer suffers from the natural propensity to sin. **Because the choice belongs to the individual, one does not have to sin.** When the Word is in our heart and we realize that we have the power to live above sin, true worship is the natural outflow. The old chorus says it best, "When I think of His goodness and all He's done for me, my soul cries out, Praise God for saving me!"

The power of the Word of God is endless. When ruminate in the mind over days, weeks, and years, it still sends forth life and understanding. After one has the Word in his/her thought processes, the sharp two-edged sword comes like lightning into the midst of sinful thoughts. When one decides to follow God, he saves himself from future judgment at the throne of God.

The psalmist described the power of meditating on God's Word in Psalm 1:2-3, "*But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.*"

We should hold God's Word in highest respect because the results of its application are eternal. Moreover, Paul warned us "*let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not*" (Galatians 6:9). Memorizing the Word of God is such a powerful source of spiritual strength to us. The wealth in remembering God's Word is incomparable, and we should consistently indulge in its precepts, hidden away in the heart. Cleansing of the soul comes by getting the Word of God into one's heart where God's written will guides his/her very thought processes.