# 30 DAYS LIVING BY THE WORD

DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Pastors Emma and Cathy King Mukisa

WOT PUBLISHING

# 30 Days
# Living by the Word

Pastors Emma and Cathy King Mukisa

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Email: books@wotmi.org

Web: www.wotpublishing.com

Tel: +256 742 302 566 / +256 786 821 888

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# Introduction

God has given you His Word so that you may know Him and live in the truth. The Scriptures reveal what He has done in Christ, what He has made yours and how you are to walk. Give them a settled place in your life. What the Father has said is worthy of your attention, your confidence and your response.

To live by the Word is to allow that truth to govern you. It concerns the way you understand yourself, the words you speak and the decisions you make. You receive what God says, consider its meaning and act accordingly. When circumstances press you to draw a conclusion contrary to His Word, you return to what He has established. When the Scriptures correct an attitude, you yield to the truth. The Word becomes evident in the life you live.

This begins from your standing in Christ. If you have received the Lord Jesus, you are already a child of God. You have been made righteous in Him, His life is in you and you have access to the Father through Him. Your growth in the Word helps you understand and express what you have received. You are learning to live consciously from your new life, with the help of the Spirit who dwells in you.

Beloved, read with that understanding. You can approach the Father confidently and receive His instruction willingly. He knows the responsibilities before you and the places where your understanding needs to grow. Give the Word room to address those matters. Let it establish you in what is true and teach you how to respond faithfully.

These thirty readings follow a deliberate progression. We begin with the nature of the Word and the response of the heart that receives it. We consider its fruitfulness, the practice of meditation and the renewal of the mind. We then give attention to the promises, the place of faith and patience, the words we speak and our fellowship with the Father in prayer. Each subject belongs to a life directed by what God has said.

Use the daily reading with your Bible open. Read the key Scripture and its surrounding passage. Notice the speaker, the people addressed and the thought being developed. Give attention to the meaning before making a personal application. Where a brief explanation of a Greek or Hebrew word is included, it serves that understanding. The truth remains accessible in the passage; you are being helped to see it more clearly.

At the end of each reading there is a practical response. Give it honest attention. You may need to write a truth in your own words, speak in agreement with a Scripture or put an instruction into practice. Let the response be definite enough to affect something you do. Keep a small record of what you are learning, especially the passages to which you need to return.

Some readings also include a declaration. Speak with understanding and faith. Let what you acknowledge agree with the Scriptures and with the conduct that follows. You have a Father who is faithful, and His Word gives substance to your confidence.

Take one reading at a time and carry its truth into the day. If you need longer with a passage, give it the attention it requires. When the thirty days are complete, the final section will help you continue with the Scriptures themselves. The purpose is a continuing life in the Word. Begin with a receptive heart, and let what the Father has said direct the life before you today.

DAY ONE

# The Word That Is Alive

*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 (NKJV)

The Word of God is alive. When you open the Scriptures, you are giving attention to what the living God has spoken. The years have not weakened His Word. What He has said continues to search the heart, establish truth and call men to respond to Him. Come to your Bible with that understanding. You have something living before you.

The word translated “powerful” in Hebrews 4:12 is energēs, meaning active or at work. The writer is describing a Word that acts upon those who hear it. Read the verses around it. He has warned his readers against unbelief and disobedience, and then declares that nothing is hidden from God. His Word reaches beyond appearances and brings the thoughts and intentions of the heart into the light. You may explain your conduct to another person and sound convincing. The Word shows you what is actually governing it.

This is one reason you must give Scripture more than a passing glance. A familiar passage may expose an attitude you have been defending. Another may establish your heart in something the Father has already made yours in Christ. Receive what it says. Where the Word corrects you, respond willingly; where it gives assurance, believe it. You do not have to choose between its searching work and its strengthening work. The same faithful God deals truthfully with His children and helps them walk in the truth.

Beloved, understanding Scripture involves careful reading. Notice who is speaking, what is being said and how the passage develops. Expect the Holy Spirit who lives in you to help you understand, and give proper attention to the words He has inspired. Spiritual expectation should make you a more attentive reader.

As you read today, allow the Word to address you personally. Stay with the passage long enough to understand its thought. If it reveals something you need to change, act on it. If it reveals your standing in Christ, acknowledge it with thanksgiving. The Bible is not exhausted because you have seen a verse before. Return with a receptive heart, ready to hear and to obey. The Word is alive, and you can give it expression in your life today.

### TODAY'S CHALLENGE

Open Hebrews 4:12 in its surrounding passage. Write one truth the Word reveals and one response you will make today.