

What does it mean to minister the Word?

Scripture Reading: John 17:1-20

Who is the Word?

If we want to minister **with** Jesus and not simply do “things” in His name, we must be in harmony with Christ – with His Word and with the way He used His Word.

Jesus is called “*the Word of God*” (Revelation 19:13). Such a title denotes Christ’s authority, wisdom, grace, and power.

- John 1:1-5 – He is the sovereign creator and the light of men.
- John 1:14,16-17 – He is the essence of and the source of grace and truth.
- Revelation 19:11-16 – He is “*Faithful and True.*” With all authority and power, He has overcome the world and will reign supremely. See Revelation 1:5; 3:14.

What is our relationship with the Word?

How we reverence the Word of God is an indicator of how we reverence Jesus Christ (Colossians 2:6-10; 3:16; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; John 6:63; 8:30-32,36; 14:15; Matthew 28:18-20).

We need to have an intimate and lively relationship with Christ and His Word (Colossians 3:16; Hebrews 4:12-16; Romans 1:16; II Timothy 1:12).

What is our method of ministering the Word?

We are not just talking about Scripture. But how do we minister Christ, the Word, to others? We need to observe how Christ ministered the Word. Then use the Word to release Him into the mind and the heart of others.

When Christ walked on earth, He could expose the secrets of people’s hearts and lives to them (John 1:45-49; 4:16-18,28-29; Matthew 26:34,75). You and I cannot do the same things the same way as Jesus did. But we can expose people to His Word, so He, in turn, can reveal His thoughts about their heart and life (Hebrews 4:12-13 cp. I Corinthians 14:24-25).

We need to expose people to an environment of Scriptural thought in which Jesus can speak to them as He did here on earth (John 5:25 [cp. Ephesians 4:21 – KJV; NKJV; NASB]; I Corinthians 2:1-5; I Thessalonians 2:13; Romans 15:18). Jesus is called the author (originator / founder) and finisher (perfecter) of our faith (Hebrews 12:2 – see KJV, NKJV, ESV). Keep in mind that, when you minister the Word of the Gospel, you are ministering Christ Himself to others (Romans 10:14,17).