

Russell Kelfer
Open My Eyes
That I May
Behold

#1317-A

Series: What the Word Says About the Word

dtm DISCIPLESHIP TAPE MINISTRIES, INC.
INTO HIS LIKENESS RADIO

10602 Mossbank, San Antonio, TX 78230 • (210) 226-0000 / 1-800-375-7778 • www.dtm.org • dtm@dtm.org

Open My Eyes That I May Behold

Our Father and our God,

What a privilege to be able to call You, our Father; to be able to come into Your presence, bathed in the blood of the Lamb, knowing that immediately we have an audience with the King of Glory. We pause, our Father, to fall before You and worship. You are our God, the One who spoke the worlds into being. The One who even, this moment, ever lives to make intercession for us.

Our prayer, Father, is that the Holy Spirit might be our teacher, Your precious, priceless Word, our only authority, and Your glory, our only goal. We pray for the comforting power of Your Spirit in the lives, Father, of those who have had a struggle in the weeks past. For some, it has been pain. For some, it has been loneliness. For some, it's just been fear of the unknown.

But You've told us, Father, the God of all comfort does comfort us and You have been comforting us. And for those, Father, who have not been appropriating that comfort, and living in the sheer joy of it, we pray that even this moment, they might turn loose and let the encouragement that is theirs in Christ, begin to lift their Spirits. We ask You to be our teacher, Father, and we ask through Your Spirit, to be our guide in the week to come.

In Jesus' name, amen.

It really is true; only God could do that. Only God could write a book and the book would verify its own truth. Only God could do that. Only God could write a book that had within its power the ability to draw you back to that book, and, in essence—in reality—to the author of that Book in a personal relationship.

Only God could do that. Only God could write a book that wasn't really a book at all. Only God could take a Person and so design His Spirit that He could breathe that Person into a book and that book would cease being just a book, but would, in fact,

Open My Eyes That I May Behold

be a Living Word; something that could divide asunder even the joints and the marrow and the very thoughts and intents of our heart.

Only God could do that. But, of course, He did. He made the Living Word become the written Word so that the written Word would have the power to be alive, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword. Only God could do that.

Only God could make that Book timeless. Every word He wrote was true when it was written. Every word He wrote is true today. Every word He wrote will be true ten million times ten million years from now. In the endless ages of eternity yet unborn, He is; therefore, His Word will be.

Only God could make that Book immutable. It cannot change. It cannot drift in its meaning. It cannot weaken in its impact, because it has a Living Spirit as its interpreter, and because that Living Spirit is the expression of the I AM, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever. So, beloved, when Jesus comes, not one word of this Book will be less applicable than it was the day it was written. Only God could do that.

Only God could write a Book that was alive and only God could use that Book to change our lives. But God did, and God is, and God will, if we let Him. Our goal for the next few weeks—and I won't tell you how many weeks because you won't come back—but for the next few hundred weeks, our goal is going to be to look at what the Book says about the Book. What the Bible says about itself. What the Scripture teaches about the Scripture. And beloved, if what it says is true, and of course, it is, we have in our power literal dynamite! Dynamite, indeed, and it's waiting to explode into the very recesses of our hearts, making us the kind of men and women who can have victory over the enemy. The kind of men and women who can literally experience knowledge of the Holy through which we can actually see our lives literally changed into His likeness.

But the truth of the matter, beloved, is having this Book and even reading this Book, or hearing this Book taught, is not the answer. You see, this Book is a Person. I'm not sure most of our young people understand that today, in this generation. This Book is a Person and that Person demands obedience. To not obey the Person is to deny the Book its power to redeem, to transform, to sustain, and to enlighten. This Book is a gift; it's

Open My Eyes That I May Behold

the way the Person is that it embodies. But you must appropriate the truth by choice to be changed, just as you have to receive that Person to be changed.

And so, we see in our generation, a whole world full of believers who are devoid of power, unable to function victoriously in the Christian life. They are seemingly living from one emotional experience to the next, or existing happily only on the basis of their circumstances of life, which this Book says is not the basis of true happiness at all. In fact, beloved, if this Book is to be believed, it says that true happiness belongs to those who mourn, to those who weep, to those who are persecuted, to those who are poor in spirit; those who, in and of themselves, do not even possess the capacity to believe apart from divine intervention.

Divine intervention *is* the theme of this Book. Man was a sinner and didn't know it, so God intervened and sent the law. He wrote it in the Book. Man couldn't keep the law, so God took the Person of His Son and sent Him to earth to reveal the ultimate expression of His nature, His matchless grace. He paid the price to redeem us. This Living Word then, went back to the Father, and left this completed written Word through which He could breathe into us His very life. So, the theme of this Book is the same as the theme of His coming. It's grace.

That is the theme of God's Book, and God's Book is the theme of this series. We are going to be scanning the pages of the written Word for information about how that Word can change our lives. The doorway we will enter through will be Psalm 119. There is no place in the Word, where the Word comes more alive.

Rather than taking it verse by verse, we will approach it somewhat the way we did the book of Proverbs. We will take that chapter topically, and then we will follow the thread that leads each topic into the rest of the Word, so the Word will confirm itself. Here are some of the topics. If you have been in this class long, you know that this gives us something to pretend like we know where we are going. And, you remember, the important thing about an outline in this class is that every part of the outline starts with the same letter. It need not make sense, and in this case, of course, it doesn't.

- I- The Preface to the Word (Open my eyes—that's not a bad thing to teach on at 8 o'clock.)
- II- The Purpose of the Word (A lamp unto our feet, a light

Open My Eyes That I May Behold

unto our path.)

- III- The Pursuit of the Word (More than our necessary food—I don't want to get to that one.)
- IV- The Partner to the Word (I was glad I was _____)
- V- The Place of the Word
- VI- The Protection of the Word
- VII- The Five-fold Proof of the Word
- VIII- The Permanence of the Word (The grass withers, the flower fades.)

THE PREFACE TO THE WORD

This is the foundational study and it may be the most important one of the series. Because I believe the great problem in our society today, particularly in this country, is not the absence of availability of the Word of God; it's everywhere. The problem in our society, at least in this country today, is not the absence of information *about* the Word. We have a very Biblically literate generation. No, the problem in our generation, beloved, is the absence of respect for the Word of God. We approach God and we approach His Word, with a kind of casualness that defies His holiness.

We want to be contemporary, don't we? We want to "reach our society," so we have remade the God of eternity into some kind of a spiritual "pal." We've made His Word into some kind of a textbook. We have equated knowledge with spirituality. We have equated discussing the problems of man, with solving them. We use the Scriptures like some a kind of a band-aid while we're excusing God for not being able to do anything more with society than He's been able to do.

The problem, beloved, is that the tool He has given us to change the world, we're not using. God has not changed. That shouldn't surprise you. Man has not changed, believe it or not. And I'll tell you one thing, this Book has not changed, and it never will. And until you and I recapture that sense of awe in the presence of God, and that sense of awe at the very mention of His Word, we are never going to fully have a handle on reaching our world for Christ. We have the crown jewel of eternity right in our hand, and we treat it like a Timex watch. We expect it to work, but we really don't want to give it any respect.

Open My Eyes That I May Behold

What is the first step in taking the Word into our lives? That's what this lesson will be about. We will take our journey and begin with a principle nestled in Psalm 119:18. There, you may remember the passage. It says—and this was especially appropriate in the early class:

Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of
Your law. (Psalm 119:18 NKJV)

That's where we will begin. It's a strange request, if you think about it. It's asking God to do something to make the Scriptures come alive. It's not asking for information; it's asking for transformation. It's an intriguing request. I wonder how many of you understand what it means? How many of you, every time you take this Book and open it, every time you go into church, every time you hear the Word taught, stop and ask God to open your eyes so that the truth can really make a difference?

Well, I'll give you another outline for this part of the study. It will also cover the next two studies. We will look at:

- A- The Essence of Awe
- B- The Essence of Asking
- C- The Exclusiveness of Asking (What it means to have ears to hear.)
- D- The Essence of Asking (Seven things Psalm 119 tells us to ask God for as we read His Word.)

I pray that it will be practical. We want to know the mind of God, don't we, about what the Word of God says about how it can change our lives. I don't know about you, but I think some of us may end up being surprised that we've read the Word all of our lives, or we have even taught the Word for a long time, but there's been a little missing ingredient, and I pray by God's grace, that ingredient may come to life in this lesson, and in the lessons to come.

The Absence of Awe

I think that key ingredient has something to do with how we approach God and how we approach His Word. There is a three-fold problem in the world today, and I think all of you will agree with this. The first is:

1- There is basically no awe of authority anymore. Some of you are not old enough to remember, but there was a time when

Open My Eyes That I May Behold

young people actually said, “Sir or Ma’am.” They addressed people properly by their titles. I think 2 Timothy 3, really captures the essence of our generation; the absence of respect for authority. I can even remember a time when students would stand when a teacher walked into the room. Some of you might remember that. But today, showing respect has been replaced by rebellion. The question in school is no longer, “Did they do their homework?” It is, “Are they on drugs?”

The general public has no respect for authority; not political authority or social authority. Now granted, I understand the disdain, the distrust, and the disgust. Some of it is deserved from the standpoint of the people in the office. But, beloved, what we’ve lost sight of, is this Book says, you honor the office because God placed them there. Employees no longer respect the authority of their bosses. I think Satan has won a battle. Do you remember what he did in the garden? He turned to Eve—and it’s not a new problem—and he said, “Eve, what right does God have to tell you what to eat? What right does *anybody* have to tell *you* what to do?”

The Scripture foretold that the closer we get to the Lord’s return, the more resistance to authority we will find. The very concept of authority and the office of authority is foreign to so many people today. There was a time when people stood when the king of a nation went by; when the president was introduced; when the flag was raised. Can anybody remember that? People stood at attention. The flag had to be taken down at night and folded in a certain way. Things have changed. There is basically, no awe of authority anymore.

2- There is no awe of God anymore. There was a time in society when even unbelievers showed a common respect for the things of God, for the church, and for the Word of God. No more. God is addressed in the media today, as some kind of out-of-date fuddy duddy who can’t *possibly* relate to this world we live in, and if He could, He would probably be powerless to do anything about it.

Children can’t pray in school, but that’s not the big problem. Most of them wouldn’t know *how* if they *could*. God is made fun of in music. God is made fun of in literature. The clergy is the obvious target of every kind of perverse humor. Prayer is either a joke or a tradition, but to most people, nothing serious.

Even in Christian music, seldom do we hear in new

Open My Eyes That I May Behold

compositions, about the grandeur of the majesty of the music where the words simply cause us to fall down before God in utter abandonment and worship. We want so badly to be non-traditional, that we tend to redefine worship as that which makes us feel good, rather than that which elevates *the name and the character of the King of kings*. Instead of seeing worship as a privilege of coming into the presence of God, we think it's a chance to "fly the friendly skies of heaven" so we'll feel better.

3- Those two things having been said, then it's obvious there is no awe at God's Word. In generations past, men and women would stand when the Word was read. Congregations would be hushed and still. "The pastor is going to read the Scriptures, now." To be given a copy of the Scripture was an honor. To be given a copy as a child was a foretaste of confidence and hope. Today, we have multiple translations of the Bible on our bookshelves, and they are filled with books about the Book. In fact, so many books have been written about the Book, we forget that reading those books are not the same as taking this Word into our lives for ourselves. Christian bookstores are everywhere. Christian radio stations are all over the place. The good news is that the Good News is available. The bad news is that what we have so much of, we take for granted. And because we have all these people to read it for us and write books about it, we forget that we are commanded to read it, memorize it, and meditate on it ourselves, so God can speak directly to us.

I don't know how many of you were here a few months ago, when we had a missionary speak who had come back from what once was the Iron Curtain. He was sharing about their hunger for the Word of God. In one case, word got out that there was a case of Bibles in the trunk of this missionary's car and people literally tore the trunk off the car to get a copy of God's Word. He told stories of people standing in line all night because the next morning somebody was going to give them a copy of the Scriptures.

They would hold it to themselves and say, "The Word of God. The Word of God. I have a copy of the Word of God!" And we in this country, meanwhile, treat the Word with a kind of apathy that comes when we don't appreciate what we have. I think most of us have forgotten how precious this Book really is. We can't fathom having it taken away from us, so we don't cling to it and we don't memorize it, as though someday we might never have

Open My Eyes That I May Behold

it. The second thing is that Christian leaders today, do not hold it in its proper esteem, so we forget that this is not a Word *about* God; this is a Word *from* God. There is a tremendous difference. Therefore, every syllable ought to fill our hearts with intensity because every Word is a Word from Him.

The Essence of Awe

Now, I am going to ask you a question as we proceed. How in awe are you at the Word of God? When it is read, do you tremble with excitement? Do you hang on every word expecting something to happen, or has it just become a textbook to you, a rulebook with optional guidelines, or maybe something to give you additional, emotional encouragement? It should do all those things, beloved, but only as a by-product. Let me make one clear statement. This is the Word of God. Not *a* word, *the* Word. Not a word *about* God, a Word *from* God—*The* Word of God. I'm not sure this generation understands that. Beloved, until we return to that sense of awe at what God has said, we will never experience the majesty of the fellowship we were intended to have.

You're waiting for a memory verse. I can tell by the eager look on your faces. It is Isaiah 66:2. We will, however, first begin with verse 1. It's a good place to start. Thus sayeth the Lord—you remember the passage:

“Heaven is My throne, and earth is My footstool. Where is the house that you will build Me? And where is the place of My rest?

For all those things My hand has made, and all those things exist,” says the Lord. (Isaiah 66:1,2a NKJV)

Physical buildings, possessions and programs are all secondary to God. God made them in the first place. He can reproduce them again. That is not what He is looking for. Well, what is He looking for? One thing, it says in verse 2:

But on this one will I look: [or for this man will I look] On him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, And who trembles at my word. (Isaiah 66:2 NKJV)

God isn't looking for programs. God isn't looking for numbers. God isn't looking for buildings. God is looking for men. God is looking for women. And what is He looking for in those men and women? Two things:

1- a broken, humble spirit, and

Open My Eyes That I May Behold

2- a literal awe at the mention of His Word.

He wants men and women who are so humbled at the thought of who He is, that they literally tremble at the sound of His voice. Now I think there are basically two things that make us tremble; both of them are healthy. One is fear. The other is respect or awe. Some of you can remember as a child when you first were sent to the principal's office, and you were sitting out there waiting for the door to open. You may have trembled with fear. That's a healthy fear, incidentally. But, maybe at the same time in your life, you had an idol, someone you just really looked up to. Maybe it was a basketball star; maybe it was a musician; maybe it was a teacher. And you were given an opportunity to spend a day with this person you thought you would never even be able to meet. You trembled with excitement. It was awesome.

What is awe? *Awe is proper respect for the holiness of God.* What does it mean to tremble? *To tremble is the proper response to the holiness of God.* To tremble is to stand in utter amazement at who God is and seeing and hearing of His holiness and His majesty, responding with total adoration and abandonment.

We are going to look at the Scripture and see how this word, tremble, is used. It's interesting. I'm going to ask you the question, do you tremble at the Word of God? You say, "Well listen, if Jesus Christ were to appear to me and stand beside me tomorrow, I would tremble." Would you? Because God does appear to you every time you read, study, memorize, or meditate in this Book. Maybe you don't see Him physically, but this Word, the Scripture says of itself, is "alive." It is the literal voice of God speaking to you.

Do you remember when God appeared to Moses in Exodus 3? He told Moses to take his shoes off because he was on holy ground. In Acts 7:32-33, you read an account of that given by Stephen, just before he was stoned to death in the presence of Paul. This is how he described it:

When Moses saw it [the burning bush], he marveled [he was in awe] at the sight; and as he drew near to observe, the voice of the Lord came to him,

[God spoke] saying, 'I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses [stressed and said, Lord, am I glad to see you.' No, it says Moses] trembled, and dared not look.

Open My Eyes That I May Behold

Then said the LORD to him, “Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.”

(Acts 7:31-33 NKJV)

What made it holy? The presence of God. What made him tremble? God spoke and His Word went forth. Why did he tremble? He was in awe. He became aware of the holiness of God and responded by humbling himself and saw himself as so unworthy to be in the presence of God, and to have God, Himself, speaking to him, he trembled. Do you?

Now, you may not see many burning bushes in your day, particularly ones that are not consumed. But believe it or not, you have a greater opportunity to stand in the presence of God and hear from God, than Moses did. Now we read in Scripture that God said of Moses, “You’re my friend. I talk to you face to face as a man speaks to his friend.” But don’t you realize, beloved, that every Word God ever wanted to say to man has been said and recorded in this Book. You have so much more—the completed canon of Scripture—than Moses ever had.

The problem is, we have the Holy Spirit; we have the completed Scripture, and we tend to yawn and say, “Wow. Well, we’ve got it.” And the problem, beloved, is that we have lost sight of the reality that availability and familiarity are not the same thing. The fact that the Spirit of God lives in us and is constantly available to us ought to make us tremble the more. But somehow, Satan whispers into our ears, “Oh, yeah, the Scriptures. I’ve heard that before.” So, we go to church, or we go to Bible class, or we go to a study, or we sit down by a tape recorder or a radio and the Word of God is read and the Word of God is heard and we yawn, or we are diverted or distracted, or just unimpressed. Psalm 119:161 says this:

Princes persecute me without a cause, But my heart stands
in awe of Your word. (Psalm 119:161 NKJV)

The princes don’t do much for me, but boy, Your Word does. Psalm 119:120 says:

My flesh trembles for fear of You, And I am afraid of Your
judgments. (Psalm 119:120 NKJV)

So, again, there are two kinds of fear. There are two kinds of things that make us tremble; two kinds of awe. There is the fear of the wrath of God, and there’s awe at the Word of God. Even nature, incidentally, understands how awesome the Word is. One

Open My Eyes That I May Behold

of my favorite verses in Scripture is Psalm 46:6. I think it is a fantastic verse to memorize, because of what it says.

The nations raged, the kingdoms were moved [Sounds like a world-wide conflict, doesn't it?]; He uttered His voice, the earth melted.
(Psalm 46:6 NKJV)

That's our God. Isaiah 5:25 says:

Therefore the anger of the LORD is aroused against His people; He has stretched out His hand against them and stricken them, And the hills trembled. (Isaiah 5:25 NKJV)

In Habakkuk 3 we read of God's appearing in answer to the prophet's prayer:

His glory covered the heavens, And the earth was full of His praise.

His brightness was like the light; (Habakkuk 3:3b,4a NKJV)

In verse 6 we read:

He stood and measured the earth [He took stock of it; He beheld]; He looked and startled the nations. And the everlasting mountains were scattered. The perpetual hills bowed. His ways are everlasting.

I saw the tents of Cushan in affliction; the curtains of the land of Midian trembled. (Habakkuk 3:6,7 NKJV)

Now, I know it doesn't make sense, but wouldn't it be neat if we had just as much sense as nature? We have living souls that can actually experience intimate fellowship with the Living God, but we are less impressed with the voice of God, than the hills and the trees are. God asked the question in Jeremiah 5:22:

“Do you not fear Me?” says the Lord. “Will you not tremble at My presence?” (Jeremiah 5:22a NKJV)

I know this is difficult to understand, but even the demonic hosts respond accordingly. James 2:19:

You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! (James 2:19 NKJV)

Even the hosts of hell tremble when God speaks. They will not receive His holiness, but they stand in awe of it and they tremble in His presence. What's wrong with us?

What about the miracles of God? Do you read about the miracles of God in Scripture today, or talk about the miracles of God in Your life, and just say, “Ho hum”? Do you talk about

Open My Eyes That I May Behold

the sea parting, or water coming out of a rock? Can you do that without falling on your face in utter awe of who God is? It is no wonder people make light of the miracles that occur day-by-day, because Christians are no longer in awe at the miracles in Scripture. The Philippian jailer was. Remember, in Acts 16:29-30?

Then he [the jailer] called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas.

And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"
(Acts 16:29,30 NKJV)

Do you remember when God saved you? Do you remember when God released you from the prison house of sin and the doors of heaven swung open and He beckoned to you? Do you still tremble at the thought of it? The God of creation spoke your name and in a moment of time, your sins were forgiven, and God placed His Spirit in you and made you a brand-new person. Doesn't that do anything for you, anymore? When God speaks in His Word of the miracle of the cross, don't you tremble with excitement?

When He says in His Word:

This same Jesus will come again in like manner as you have seen Him go,
(Acts 1:11 paraphrase)

Don't you tremble with anticipation and excitement? When God manifests His power in the elements through a thunderstorm, a hurricane, a tornado, or an earthquake, don't you tremble in awe that the same power is still available to God; that He just breathes and the world is in awe? Job 37 says:

At this also my heart trembles, and leaps from its place.

Hear attentively the thunder of His voice, and the rumbling that comes from His mouth.

He sends it forth under the whole heaven, His lightning to the ends of the earth.

After it a voice roars; He thunders with His majestic voice, and He does not restrain them when His voice is heard.

God thunders marvelously with His voice; He does great things which we cannot comprehend. (Job 37:1-5 NKJV)

We have lost our awe at the power of God, at the holiness of God, and at the Word of God. This Book is so familiar to us

Open My Eyes That I May Behold

today, that to think about bowing in utter submission at the sound of it is not even part of our thinking. To cry out in humility, in thanksgiving for its presence, is unbelievable. My friend, something is wrong.

Let's return to our passage as we close. Psalm 119:18. Remember? It says:

Open my eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of
your law. (Psalm 119:18 NKJV)

In the next lesson, we are going to look at what it means to have “open eyes.” We are going to look at what it means to “behold wondrous things.” We are going to ask God, what “wondrous things” are, and we are going to follow that Word in the Scripture and see what He says. I believe, unless we are seeking “wondrous things,” we won't experience them.

I would like to close this lesson by focusing on just one thought. I think unless you focus on one thought as you finish a lesson, that sometimes you don't have a track to run on until the next lesson. So, we are going to focus on one basic thought and that is, how do you approach God's Word on a day-to-day basis? Do you even ask Him consistently; to change your life every single time He opens His mouth? II Corinthians 3:18—you're familiar with it because it is our class verse. In the Amplified translation it reads like this:

And we all, with unveiled face, continually seeing as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are progressively being transformed into His image from [one degree of] glory to [even more] glory, which comes from the Lord, [who is] the Spirit. (II Corinthians 3:18 Amplified Bible)

In other words, it is through this Word, that we behold as in a mirror the glory of God, and are constantly being changed by that Word. So, this Book that we treat so casually, so informally, is not only *the* Word from God, it is *the* vehicle God uses to change us into His likeness.

Now, if you knew that tomorrow morning at 6:00 a.m., the doorbell was going to ring, and you were going to open it, and Jesus Christ, Himself, was going to walk through that door, and talk with you, and strengthen you, and encourage you, and that when He left, you were not only going to have seen Him and known Him, you were going to be more like Him. You would walk more like Him, talk more like Him, and think more like Him.

Open My Eyes That I May Behold

Wouldn't you tremble with excitement? Would you even sleep tonight? Would you think about anything else between now and then? A visit from God. A Word from God. A transformation into God's likeness. That moment, like the moment of Olympic gold, would be worth preparing for, thinking about, and praying about for all of your life. An encounter with God. Your own "mount of transfiguration."

Now listen. That is exactly what is going to happen tomorrow morning at 6:00 a.m., or 7:00 a.m., or whenever it is you plan to get alone and search the Word of God. At least, that is what should happen. You have two choices. You can yawn, rub your eyes, take your Bible and say, "Okay, Lord, I'm going to get this Bible study thing over with so I can get on with my day." Or you can fall down on your face before the God of creation, the One whose very voice causes the mountains to shake and the trees to bend, and cry out, "Open my eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of your law."

In our next study, we'll look at what some of those "wondrous things" are. But I'm going to ask you until then, to focus on one thing. Ask God to open your eyes to the grandeur of who He is. And ask Him, through His Word, to open your heart and help you realize, that every time this Book is read, every time this Book is quoted, every time this Book is studied, every time this Book is heard, God Himself is speaking to you.

Let's ask God to teach us to tremble once again. To tremble with awe at who He is. To tremble with wonder at what He's done. To tremble with anticipation at what He has promised. To tremble with humility that we have been given the honor of having an audience with the King. And not only that, but every word He will ever want to tell us, has already been given to us in this wonderful, miraculous living Book.

I think it is time, beloved, for the people of God to stop taking the Word of God so lightly. The Word is a Person. The Word is the Person of the Living God, teaching us, correcting us, directing us, and encouraging us. How dare we take it lightly.

What is the first thing, then, that the Word says about the Word? It says God is looking for men and women who are of a poor and contrite spirit; men and women so in awe of who He is that, when He speaks, they literally tremble at His Word. By God's amazing grace, may we come to be those men and women.

Open My Eyes That I May Behold

Let's pray.

Our Father and our God,

May we never take Your Word lightly again. May we never treat it with disrespect. May we never treat it presumptuously. May we not take it for granted. That You would be willing to walk with us, and talk with us, and teach us everything You have to say, oh, dear God, what an honor.

May we bow before You as we close, and thank You that You love us so much, that not only have You died to give us life, You have taken that Life, poured it into a Book, and given us the Living Word. By Your grace, may that Living Word come alive in us in the days to come.

In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen.

dtm DISCIPLESHIP TAPE MINISTRIES, INC.

10602 Mossbank, San Antonio, TX 78230
210-226-0000 or 1-800-375-7778

www.dtm.org • dtm@dtm.org • © Russell Kelfer