

Hebrews 5:13

Skillful in the Word

Skill is practical knowledge, ability and readiness to use something for its proper purpose. It assumes knowledge of that proper use, as well as presupposing ability and experience in applying that knowledge. Its implied aim is mastery of that thing, so that you might be able to call upon that skill to use it when needed, as needed. So, what is it to be skillful in the Word of Righteousness? What is the proper use of the knowledge? What abilities should we possess? How do we apply it?

I. WHAT IS IT TO BE SKILLFUL?

a. To know its content

- i. Understand the arc of Scripture,
- ii. Read, read, read
- iii. Know what it says

b. To Know its purpose

- i. It is the very Word of God
- ii. It tells us of God
- iii. It tells us of Christ
- iv. It tells us of our duty
- v. It tells us of our need
- vi. It tells us of His provision
- vii. It tells us of His plan

c. To Know its intended use

- i. It conveys faith
- ii. It carries Spiritual power to awaken the dead and to improve the living
- iii. It is the sure weapon against the enemy, as it is the sword of the Lord - the living word of God
- iv. It changes us where it touches us
- v. It condemns our sin
- vi. It nurtures our souls

- d. To be able to use it for its intended use.

II. ESTABLISH AND INCREASE OUR FAITH.

- a. Nothing is more important
- b. Nothing but the scripture, the word of the gospel can do this.
- c. All of our faith must be correctly aligned and established
 - i. It establishes our Faith In Christ alone
 - 1. The Bible IS the story of Christ. He is on every page and in part of it from Genesis to Revelation.

Luke 24:25–27 (NKJV)

25 Then He said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! 26 Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?” 27 And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

2. Through Him all things were created

Genesis 1.1

John 1.1-5

Colossians 1.15-18

3. Through Him all things are and to Him all things belong

Romans 11:36 (NKJV)

³⁶ For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.

4. Through Him we believe in God

Ephesians 2:17–18 (NKJV)

¹⁷ And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.

1 Peter 1:20–21 (NKJV)

²⁰ He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in

these last times for you ²¹ who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

5. Through Him faith is given

Acts 3:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ And His name, through faith in His name, has made this man strong, whom you see and know. Yes, the faith which *comes* through Him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

6. Through Him we have forgiveness of sin

Ephesians 2:14-16

7. Through Him we are saved from wrath

Romans 5:9 (NKJV)

⁹ Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.

Hebrews 7:24–25 (NKJV)

²⁴ But He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. ²⁵ Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

8. Through Him we have life

1 John 4:9 (NKJV)

⁹ In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.

9. Through Him we are more than conquerors

Romans 8:37 (NKJV)

³⁷ Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

10. He is revealed in every way through the word

- a. His person
 - b. His offices
 - c. His work
 - d. His righteousness
 - e. His salvation for us
- ii. Our specific duty and skill then consists of discovering Christ in all the Bible –

2Corinthians 3.7-18

- iii. All fruit of the Gospel will wither when we will not feed our souls what they need to see and know: Christ crucified and raised. This is what happened to the church in Jerusalem.
- iv. With it we fight against temptations
- 1) Fight against the enemy with the Word of God –

2Corinthians 10.3-6

Romans 12.1-2

Ephesians 6.14-18

2) Hold up the shield of faith and strike home with the sword of the Word

3) Strike the foe with the only weapon given.

a. Manage the word in your mind and heart

ii. Memorize

iii. Apply

iv. Meditate

v. Ponder

vi. Obey

b. Cling to the promises

c. Remember the precepts

d. Beware of the warnings

e. Obey the instructions

1. Use the light you have been given faithfully and more will be provided as you need it.

2. Your own reasoning and logic will not stand against the schemes and plans of the enemy.

3. Fight against the attempts of men to undermine –

2 Timothy 2:18 (NKJV)

18 who have strayed concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection is already past; and they overthrow the faith of some.

4. Doctrine matters

1. Men are always attacking truth to make it more palatable, or convenient or easy on their pet sin...
2. Many fall away from the truth for a host of reasons, but can all be summed up into 2 main ideas
 - i. Those who seduce themselves by their own lusts –

1Timothy 6.9

- ii. Those who that are deceived and seduced by others –

Romans 16.18

5. We will have to fight against those who are teaching falsehood, and the lies that they spread. It requires us to know what the Scripture teaches on every point. We must be masters of the Word of God

III. GUIDE

Guides us into the whole of our duty, so that we are not lost, at a loss for what to do next or confused about how...

a. The Word is the whole package of what we need

1. The word is our guide
2. Our rule
3. Our light
4. But if we are not prepared to walk in it we will never stand up straight and grow in grace to the glory of God the father.

b. It is our guide for the whole of our lives

1. We have our rule for readiness in all duty, all temptations, all situations, all need
 2. We have the clarity to obey and trust while others wander in the darkness –
- c. It is our guide when the circumstances are particularly difficult –

Romans 8.31-39

1. We are not perplexed or overcome
2. We are not at wits end
3. We are not violently or angrily breaking out of the constraints of God's law to the destruction of our conscience
4. We apply the word and extricate ourselves from difficulty in a manner fitting to the children of God