

## The Image of God In You



"Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near." (Isaiah 55:6) If you are a born-again child of Almighty God, God has given you the motivating force of right conduct and the power to make changes in your life and in your circumstances. This motivating force is called principle. The principle of the "inner image" of God in you.

This image is formed in you by searching to know Him through earnest, sincere prayer from a heart that is hungry to know Him above all else; and searching diligently in His Word (the Bible) to study to know Him – to make Him more important than watching television, going to movies, being angry at what life has done to you, how your family has treated you, or anything else that your mind dwells on.

"Let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their own thoughts and imaginations: and let them return to the Lord, and He will have mercy on them; for He will abundantly pardon." (Isaiah 55:7) Rise above the <u>self</u>-image thoughts of this world that have replaced God's image in your heart.

Words that we speak to ourselves can destroy – or they can create. Words are what take your inner image and project it to the outside world. What if your inner image is wrong? That's a problem that all of us face. You may be struggling to be thin while your inner image of yourself sees yourself fat. You may be working to be a winner while seeing yourself as a loser. How do you change that? By the Word of God and only the Word of God! "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.

"For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and returns not there, but waters the earth and makes it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall My Word be that goes forth out of My mouth: it shall not return to me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." (Isaiah 55:9-11)

What you need to use to develop your "inner image" and for the words you speak is the Word of God contained in your Bible. The Word has supernatural power. Supernatural means beyond the natural experience or knowledge of the world; the divine intervention of God in our lives when we speak His Words. Words are containers and if you fill each Word with faith and speak it out, it will work for you to change your life and circumstances as surely as it does for God Himself.

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God's Word is a living thing. Everything that is now, everything that has ever been, and everything that ever will be was brought about either directly or indirectly by the Word of God. God's Words are not empty like men's are. God's Words are packed with faith. That faith is the energy that is in the Word that gives it the power to bring itself to pass. The faith He has given you, carried in the containers of His Words, can create new realities in your life. Don't say you have no faith. As a born-again believer according to Romans 12:3, God has dealt to every man (and that is bound to include you) the measure of faith.

Now, by the power of the Holy Spirit, you have faith inside of you as a born-again believer. So, when your "inner image" matches God's Word, when you see yourself inside as God sees you, then your faith can produce the end result that God wants it to produce. In this way you become a co-worker with Him, bringing His will to pass on this earth.

The devil understands the power of the "inner image" and he works hard to destroy and distort God's image by uprooting the Word of God that's been planted inside of you. Mark 4:17 says the Word in our hearts is in greatest danger of dying out when persecution and affliction arise for the Word's sake. The devil has to stop you from creating an "inner image" of the Word because once you have it, nothing can stop you from receiving from God – because then you are fully persuaded that what God has promised, He is able also to perform.

Remember, the Word has within itself the power to bring itself to pass. Once you get in agreement with the Word, the devil can't stop it from coming to pass in your life. The only way he can steal the Word is to get your mind on the cares and problems of this world and make a troubled image of them in your mind that seems bigger than God. There is only one way to overcome the devil's methods —walk by faith, not by sight. Take your eyes off of what you can see and put them on what you can't see — the power of God. "To be carnally (worldly) minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." (Romans 8:6)

"We look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal." (2 Corinthians 4:18) Temporal things that are seen are things that are subject to change. The Word is eternal and cannot change. An "inner image" of God in you, and the Words spoken in faith, will cause the natural (or temporal) to change to match the image you have inside.

As you read and meditate the Word of God, the Holy Spirit takes the Word and prints a picture of God on your heart. With that clear image on the inside of you, you release your faith, and that image which is inside you becomes a reality on the outside.

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God has given you everything you need – made you a spirit being that is going to live forever, and given you a mind and an imagination. He's given you the faith, and He's given you His Word – His written Word and His incarnate Word, Jesus Christ, your Savior. He's also given you the Holy Spirit, the One who is the power to bring the Word of God to pass in your life.

So get into the Word! Let it begin to shape the inner images in your mind about yourself, your life and about your God. Then speak it out in power and in faith. You'll soon find you can make those changes that you have struggled so long to make in yourself and in your circumstances – changes that spring from the image of God in you.

"Then you shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands." Isaiah 55:12



## The Image of God In You

1.	God gave you the motivating force and power to make changes, what is it called?
2.	What is the only way His image can be formed in you?
3.	God's Word creates His image inside you, what projects it outside?
4.	What is the only thing that will change the way you see yourself?
5.	Words are containers. What are you supposed to fill them with?
6.	God's Word is a living thing. What makes it alive?
7.	When will my faith produce the end result that God wants it to?
8.	Who will try to stop you from creating an "inner image" of God?
9.	How do you stop him?
10.	What kind of trees clap their hands? Smile as you write your answer.
11.	Why seek the Lord now? (Isaiah 55:6) (The answer to this question will be your memory verse)
	MEMORY VERSE

## The Image of God In You

- God gave you the motivating force and power to make changes, what is it called?
   The principle of the "inner image" of God.
- 2. What is the only way His image can be formed in you?

By the prayers of a hungry heart and diligent search in His Word.

3. God's Word creates His image inside you, what projects it outside?

The words I speak.

4. What is the only thing that will change the way you see yourself?
The Word of God.

- 5. Words are containers. What are you supposed to fill them with?
  Faith.
- 6. God's Word is a living thing. What makes it alive?
  God's own faith.
- 7. When will my faith produce the end result that God wants it to?

  When I see myself inside as God sees me.
- 8. Who will try to stop you from creating an "inner image" of God?
  <u>The devil.</u>
- 9. How do you stop him?

To walk by faith, not by sight.

10. What kind of trees clap their hands? Smile as you write your answer.

Palm trees.

11. Why seek the Lord now? (Isaiah 55:6)

MEMORY VERSE <u>"Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near."</u>