

God's Medicine

Proverbs 4:20-22 – *My son, (relationship) give attention to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. ²¹Do not let them depart from your eyes; keep them in the midst of your heart; ²²For they are life to those who find them, and health to all their flesh.*

- **“life”** – same as in Genesis, God breathed into man the breath of LIFE. [NT equivalent: ZOE]
- **“to those who find them”** – implies diligence; not haphazardly or accidentally. [Bible roulette??]
- **“health”** – [Derivative of RAPHA] refreshing; healing, cure; profit, sound (of mind); medicine. [Applies to more than just healing]

Take the right medicine.

- **II Timothy 3:16, 17** – *All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.*
- **Note:** incorrectly interpreting or applying the Word will lead to error!

Take your medicine as prescribed.

- **“incline your ear to my sayings”** – not only listen attentively, but listen obediently. [Listen to apply!]
- **II Timothy 4:3, 4 [NLT]** – *For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to right teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever they want to hear. ⁴ They will reject the truth and follow strange myths.*

Your faith is required for God's medicine to work for you.

- **Matthew 9:27-31** – *When Jesus departed from there, two blind men followed Him, crying out and saying, “Son of David, have mercy on us!” ²⁸And when He had come into the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” They said to Him, “Yes, Lord.” ²⁹Then He touched their eyes, saying, “According to your faith let it be to you.” ³⁰And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly warned them, saying, “See that no one knows it.” ³¹But when they had departed, they spread the news about Him in all that country.*
- **Romans 12:3** – we all have a measure of faith. The question is what we believe. [Our faith must rest in the resurrected Jesus]

The medicine must get to the right place.

- **“keep them in the midst of your heart”** [4:21] (Imperative)

- **Proverbs 23:1-7** – When you sit down to eat with a ruler, consider carefully what is before you; ²And put a knife to your throat if you are a man given to appetite. ³Do not desire his delicacies, for they are deceptive food. ⁴Do not overwork to be rich; because of your own understanding, cease! ⁵Will you set your eyes on that which is not? For riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away like an eagle toward heaven. ⁶Do not eat the bread of a miser, nor desire his delicacies; ⁷For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. “Eat and drink!” he says to you, but his heart is not with you.
 - **“thinks”** – porter or gatekeeper.
 - **Note:** our thoughts are the doorkeeper to our heart.
- **II Corinthians 10:4, 5** – For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, ⁵casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,
- **Philippians 4:8** – Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.
- **Boundaries Book:** “The amount of attention we have given to anything magnifies it in our experience, including the life we share with Jesus. This is how mental arguments become bigger than our experience with God.”

God’s medicine requires patience.

- **Hebrews 6:11, 12** – And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, ¹²that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.
- **“patience”** – actually long suffering. No losing your temper!