

# *The Power of the Scriptures in Your Daily Life*

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*This address was given at the BYU Family  
Expo Conference, April 3-4, 2006.*

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“True doctrine, understood, changes attitudes and behavior. The study of the doctrines of the gospel will improve behavior quicker than a study of behavior will improve behavior. Preoccupation with unworthy behavior can lead to unworthy behavior. That is why we stress so forcefully the study of the doctrines of the gospel” (Elder Boyd K. Packer, *CR*, Oct. 1986, p. 20).

Elder Boyd K. Packer said: “Young people, you cannot afford to fill your mind with the unworthy music of our day. . . . You degrade yourself when you identify with all of those things which seem now to surround such extremes in music: the shabbiness, the irreverence, immorality, and the addictions. Such music as that is not worthy of you. . . . I would recommend that you go through your [tapes and CDs] and set aside those that promote [immorality, drugs, etc.]. Such music ought not to belong to young people concerned about spiritual development. Why not go through your collection? Get rid of the worst of it. Keep just the best of it. Be selective in what you consume and what you produce. It becomes a part of you” (Elder Boyd K. Packer, *Ensign*, January 1974, pp. 27–28).

Elder Dallin Oaks taught: “It is a reality known to every student of the scriptures that when we read the scriptures searchingly and prayerfully, we. . . . invite and make ourselves accessible to the communications of the Holy Ghost. . . . The reading of the scriptures. . . . puts us in a position where we can obtain inspiration to answer any. . . . question, whether or not that question directly concerns the subject we are studying in the scriptures” (November 24, 1985, pp. 19–20).

Elder Dallin Oaks also taught: “The scriptures have important uses in addition to instruction. . . . One such use is to banish wicked thoughts and insulate us from evil influences. The reading of the scriptures—any scriptures, without regard to subject matter—can cleanse us from evil thoughts and strengthen our defenses against the adversary” (“Studying the Scriptures,” *S.L. Tabernacle*, November 24, 1985, pp. 17–18).

President Benson concurred: "Not only will the word of God lead us to the fruit which is desirable above all others, but in the word of God and through it we can find the power to resist temptation, the power to thwart the work of Satan and his emissaries. . . . There are those who have seemed to forget that the most powerful weapons the Lord has given us against all that is evil are His own declarations, the plain, simple doctrines of salvation as found in the scriptures" (*Conference Report*, April 1986).

"There is a power. . . . which will begin to flow into your lives the moment you begin a serious study of the [scriptures]. You will find greater power to resist temptation. You will find the power to avoid deception. You will find the power to stay on the strait and narrow path" (*Teachings of President Ezra Taft Benson*, p. 54).

#### Scripture Power

Because I want to be like the Savior and I can.  
I'm reading His instructions, I'm following his plan.  
Because I want the power His word can give to me  
I'm changing how I live, I'm changing what I'll be.

Scripture power, keeps me safe from sin!  
Scripture power is the power to win!  
Scripture power, every day I need the power that I get each time I read.

I'll find the sword of truth in each scripture that I learn.  
I'll take the shield of faith from these pages that I turn.  
I'll wear each vital part of the armor of the Lord,  
And fight my daily battles and win a great reward.