

## Use This Verse!

Talk to the average Christian, and you will find that he or she claims to have great respect and love for the word of God. The best way to prove that we have great respect and love for God's word is to obey it! Psalm 119:11 says, *"Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."* To best honor God we must make this verse real in our lives! We must use it!

In Mark 4:14-20, the sower sowed seed, which was God's word. As it became implanted in the heart (James 1:21), it produced four different results. In vs. 15, the deceived heart is affected by Satan. He takes away the word that was sown in the heart. In vss. 16-17, the disturbed heart is the stony ground, which means that they received it with gladness but they had no root, so when persecution came along, they fell away. In vss. 18-19, the distracted heart lets the word be taken away by the deceitfulness of riches and the cares of the world. In vs. 20, the discerning heart receives the word and it brings forth great amounts of fruit. This last heart is the kind of heart we need!

The secret is that we need to hide the word within the heart (Joshua 1:8). This means that we need to concentrate and dwell upon the word. If we do, we will have success -- it will keep us from sinning against the Lord. In Matthew 4:1-11, the Lord quoted scripture to refute the devil; He proved the principle of Psalm 119:11.

We will sin less as we memorize, meditate upon, and obey God's word. Hopefully, we will have the determination to be strong and do what is right.

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