

THE EVANGELICAL STREAM: THE WORD-FILLED LIFE

The Evangelical Stream centers on the great good News. Jesus is alive and here to teach his people himself. “To live a ‘Word-centered life’ simply means that we take the Bible and spend time in it, and we come to know what it teaches, and then, ... that we actually center our whole life on what we find in the Scriptures.”

(Streams workbook, Session 10)

Jesus and the Evangelical Stream

“It is among the plain, ordinary, scorned folk of Galilee that Jesus begins his ministry. Early in his travels, he comes to Nazareth and worships in the synagogue on the Sabbath. And it is to his former neighbors that he, the living Word of God, explicitly proclaims the good news of the kingdom of God from the Scriptures, the written word of God, and points to himself as the fulfillment of the passage from Isaiah.”

(Renovaré workbook, p. 60)



He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

—Luke 4:16–20

TAKING IT WITH YOU

1. Read and memorize a passage of scripture. Here are a few suggestions:
 - John 17:20–24 “Jesus’ Prayer for Union”
 - Romans 8:1–17 “Life in the Spirit”
 - 1 Corinthians 13:4–13 “Love-and God-Defined”
 - Colossians 3:1–17 “New Life in Christ”
2. Consider an emotion, such as joy, that you would like to experience more often. Then do a keyword search in the Bible. Read the verses that appear slowly and with openness to God for how you can experience even more of this emotion of life in the Kingdom.
3. “Embody” the written Word by creating or choosing a Scripture song (or rap or spoken word piece). Please don’t just think the words—actually sing or speak the song every day for one week. Come up with your own setting for a short Scripture passage, or look up “Scripture songs” online for some ideas.
4. Choose a theme in Scripture, such as Jesus’ “I am” statements in the Gospel of John or the Fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5. Meditate on these passages over the course of several days. For some great theme ideas and visual aids visit dallaswillardcenter.com/video-meditations.

