

Dear Tanya,

Thank you for writing us at Christian Questions Radio. You told us that even though you gave your life to the Lord, curse words still pop into your mind when you think about God or even read your Bible. You said that these incidences were scaring you and you wondered why they were happening.

First, we would like to commend you for giving your heart to the Lord. It is the best decision you will ever make. Although walking in Jesus' footsteps is a wonderful, faith-building journey, it is not without its challenges and temptations. Heavenly angels as well as the fallen angels who serve Satan are aware of your decision. The angels of God will assist you on your journey, while Satan's demons will try to discourage you. Their goal is to make you feel that you are not worthy to follow the Lord. God allows these temptations and tests to come upon all those who choose to follow him so that they will become more aware of their weaknesses and call upon him for strength in time of need. Note how Satan tempted even our Lord three times when he was most vulnerable after having fasted for forty days (Matthew 4:1-11). In each temptation Jesus' antidote was to quote scripture to Satan. Jesus ended the encounter by saying, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him." (Matthew 4:10-11)

We believe from what you have said, that your trial is being allowed because curse words were probably part of your vocabulary prior to giving your heart to the Lord. Satan knows that. Although you do not want to use these words now, they are still a part of your old nature. Satan observes you when you are talking or praying to God or reading your Bible. It is at that precise time that he endeavors to make a mockery out of your worship by allowing certain words to enter your mind so that you will be discouraged because you have dishonored God. When such an event happens, you need to ask yourself what Jesus would do if He were in a similar situation. We know what He did. In each case He quoted scripture to Satan. By so doing, He honored God and his holy word. If you are following in Jesus' footsteps, you must learn from His example. Then, when you call upon the Lord for strength, Satan will leave. You are not alone in this struggle. All those who have given their hearts to the Lord are tempted in one way or another. That is part of the Christian's battle. The Apostle Paul gives us good advice when he tells us to "put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes." (Ephesians 6:11) When you feel you are being attacked, quoting a scripture can be very effective. Some examples are: "Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you." (Psalm 63:3) "Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him." (James 1:12) "I desire to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart." (Psalm 40:8) "If God be for us, who can be against us?" (Philippians 4:19) "I will go in the strength of the Lord God." (Psalm 71:16)

We hope we have helped you understand why you are having these experiences. We also hope we have given you a valuable course of action you can use when these experiences come. Rather than becoming scared, as Satan would like you to be, have faith-building scriptures at hand so you can use them to ward off Satan's attacks as you call on the Lord for his strength in time of

need. “Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.” (Hebrews 4:16)

Sincerely,  
Christian Questions Radio