

*What it **doesn't** mean:*

These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.

Matthew 15:8

Don't replace following Jesus with bible **reading**.

*What it **does**:*

Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly

v16a

He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" <sup>27</sup> And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

Luke 24:25-27

Jesus is the center of the bible because **He's the center of it ALL**

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Permanence

Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, <sup>2</sup> but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. <sup>3</sup> That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers.

Psalm 1:1-3

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Ownership

Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, <sup>19</sup> speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, <sup>20</sup> always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 5:18-20

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Occupying **Potency**

To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Colossians 1:27

My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ,

Colossians 2:2

For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him,

Colossians 1:19

For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, <sup>10</sup> and in Christ you have been brought to fullness.

Colossians 2:9-10

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v16a

Communal

*How it happens:*

as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

v16b

Time **together** with Jesus at the center.

Time **together** with Jesus through the scriptures.

How we approach the scriptures, shapes how we **experience** them.

*Sincere Devotion*

They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb.

Psalms 19:10

*Critical Analysis*

Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

Acts 17:11

*Contemplative Meditation*

But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.

**Luke 2:19**

**We can't hear God in the storm, if we haven't heard him **in the silence**.**

***Closing **Considerations**:***

**Cultivate your heart by doing things with **joy** & doing things **well**.**

**And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.**

**v17**

**Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, <sup>24</sup>since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.**

**Colossians 3:23-24**

**Week of prep before corporate fast**

****Analyze** your intake**

****Investigate** your intentions**

****Make** a commitment**