Session 11

How can I make the most of the rest of my

life

1. WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

- Break with the past
 - "Do not conform to the pattern of this world." (Romans 12:2)
 - "Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its mould."
 (v.2, J. B. Phillips)
- Make a new start
 - "Let God transform you inwardly by a complete change." (v.2, GNT)
- God has treasures in store for us.
 - Sincere love (v.9)
 - Enthusiasm in your relationship with God (Romans v.11)

2. HOW DO WE DO IT?

- "Offer your bodies" (Romans 12:1)
 - Time
 - Priorities
 - Ambitions (Matthew 6:33)
 - Money
 - Ears
 - Eyes
 - Mouth
 - Hands
 - Sexuality
- "... as a living sacrifice."
 - We will find freedom.
 - There will be a cost.
 - There will be challenges.

3. WHY SHOULD WE DO IT?

- What God has done for us?
 "... in view of God's mercy." (Romans 12:1)
- What God has planned for our future?
 "... his good, pleasing and perfect will." (v.2)

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RECOMMENDED READING

The Jesus Lifestyle Nicky Gumbel

Life in Christ Raniero Cantalamessa

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Bible Reading Plan

THE BASICS OF THE BIBLE

Watch these short videos to understand the Bible better:

- Video One <u>What is the Bible?</u>
- Video Two <u>The Story of the Bible</u>
- Video Three <u>Literary Styles of the Bible</u>
- Video Four Ancient Jewish Meditation Literature

Keen to learn more? Click <u>HERE</u> for more videos on understanding the Bible better.

MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR TIME IN THE BIBLE

Some Practical Guidelines

- Find a quiet place away from as many distractions as possible.
- Pray and ask God to speak to you and change you as you read His word.
- Read it slowly and really engage your mind as your read.
- Consider, when was this written, who was it written to, why was it written, what did it mean to the people in that generation and how does it apply to us today?

As you read it's good to be internally asking the following questions:

- Is there something God is trying to say to me from this passage/story?
- Is there a lesson for me to learn?
- Is there an attitude for me to adjust?
- Is there a sin I need to confess?
- Is there a promise I need to claim?
- Is there an encouragement I need to receive?
- Is there a prayer I need to pray?

The S.O.A.P Method

S.O.A.P is a simple method for reading and applying God's word to our lives.

S.O.A.P stands for *Scripture, Observation, Application and Prayer* and involves four simple steps:

- Scripture Read a short Bible passage out loud and / or write it out.
- **Observation** What do you notice about the verses? What do you think the main message is? What verses, words or ideas jump out to you? Highlight the parts that stick out!
- Application Ask God how He wants you to apply the verse to your own life.
- Prayer Pray for others and for yourself

BIBLE READING PLAN – The Gospel of Luke

GOAL: 20mins a day for 23 days.

Use S.O.A.P

- **SCRIPTURE:** Read the Bible passage. Highlight / write out the parts that stick out to you.
- **OBSERVATION:** What do you notice about these verses? What do you think the main message is? What verses, words or ideas jump out to you?
- **APPLICATION:** Ask God how He wants you to apply the verse to your own life. Sit quietly and listen.
- **PRAYER:** Pray for others and for yourself

DAY 1:

Watch Overview of the Book of Luke:

- Luke Chapter 1-9
- Luke Chapter 10-24

DAY 2:

Watch Overview: Luke Chapter 1-2

SCRIPTURE: Luke Chapter 1-2 – The lead up to and the Birth of Jesus

- OBSERVATION, APPLICATION, PRAYER.

DAY 3:

Watch Overview: <u>Luke Chapter 3-9</u>

SCRIPTURE: Luke Chapter 3 & 4 – Jesus is Baptised and begins His ministry

- OBSERVATION, APPLICATION, PRAYER.

DAY 4:

SCRIPTURE: Luke Chapter 5 & 6 – Jesus calls his disciples and begins healing and teaching

- OBSERVATION, APPLICATION, PRAYER.

DAY 5:

SCRIPTURE: Luke Chapter 7 – Stories of people having faith in Jesus

- OBSERVATION, APPLICATION, PRAYER.

DAY 6:

SCRIPTURE: Luke Chapter 8-9 – Jesus continues teaching and sends out his disciples

- OBSERVATION, APPLICATION, PRAYER.

DAY 7 - DAY 16:

Watch Overview: Luke Chapter 9-19 – Parables, Stories and teachings of Jesus

SCRIPTURE: Read one chapter a day for 10 days.

- OBSERVATION, APPLICATION, PRAYER.

DAY 17:

Watch Overview: Luke Chapter 19-23 – Jesus goes to the cross

SCRIPTURE: Luke Chapter 19 – Jesus prepares for and travels to Jerusalem

- OBSERVATION, APPLICATION, PRAYER.

DAY 18:

SCRIPTURE: Luke Chapter 20 - The authority of Jesus is questioned

- OBSERVATION, APPLICATION, PRAYER.

DAY 19:

SCRIPTURE: Luke Chapter 21 – Jesus talks about the end times

- OBSERVATION, APPLICATION, PRAYER.

DAY 20:

SCRIPTURE: Luke Chapter 22 – Jesus is betrayed

- OBSERVATION, APPLICATION, PRAYER.

DAY 21:

SCRIPTURE: Luke Chapter 23 - The crucifixion of Jesus

- OBSERVATION, APPLICATION, PRAYER.

DAY 22:

SCRIPTURE: Luke Chapter 24 – The resurrection of Jesus

Watch Overview: Luke 24 – The resurrection of Jesus

- OBSERVATION, APPLICATION, PRAYER.

DAY 23 – Reflection.

Great job reading through the book of Luke! Take some time today to read through your notes, thoughts, highlights and observations. What's the one or two things that you are going to specifically take out of this book?

DO ANOTHER BIBLE STUDY PLAN