



TIME IN GOD'S WORD

"All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NASB)

"The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us do what is right. It is God's way of making us well prepared at every point, fully equipped to do good to everyone." 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (LB)

SIX STEPS TO EFFECTIVE BIBLE STUDY

1. HOW TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

"Faith comes from hearing the Word of God." Romans 10:17 (NASB)

Ways to Hear God's Word:

- Bible Reading
- The Bible on CD or Podcast
- Devotional Books
- Group Bible Studies
- Sermons, Podcast
- Church Service

PROBLEM: We forget _____% of what we hear after 72 hours.

HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR HEARING

1. Be ready and eager to hear God.

(Jesus) "He who has ears to hear let him hear!" Luke 8:8 (NIV)

"How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!" Psalm 119:103 (NIV)

2. Deal with attitudes that prevent hearing God (Luke 8:4-15) (NIV)

"Consider carefully how you listen ..." Luke 8:18 (NIV)

- **A Closed Mind: Is fear, pride or bitterness preventing me from hearing God?**
- **A Superficial Mind: Am I really serious about wanting to hear God speak?**
- **A Preoccupied Mind: Am I too busy and concerned with other things to concentrate on what God has to say?**

3. Confess any sin in your life.

“Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.” James 1:21 (NASB)

4. Take notes on what you hear.

“We must pay more careful attention to what we've heard, so that we do not drift away!”

Hebrews 2:1 (NASB)

Keep a Spiritual Notebook

5. Act on what you hear!

“Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says!”

James 1:22 (NIV)

“But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.” James 1:25 (NASB)

2. HOW TO READ GOD'S WORD

How often should I read God's Word? _____

“(The Scriptures) shall be his constant companion. He must read from it everyday of his life so that he will learn to respect the Lord his God by obeying all of his commands.” Deuteronomy 17:19 (LB)

SUGGESTIONS

Read systematically.

Have a Bible with notes. (Study Bible)

Choose the best translation for you.

For reading: New Living Translation, Christian Holman Standard, Living Bible

Underline or color code key verses.

Choose a reading plan and stick with it.

Devotional Book

If I read approximately _____ minutes per day, I can read through the Bible once a year.

**A BIBLE READING PLAN
THROUGH THE NEW TESTAMENT IN 30 DAYS**

1. Matthew 1-9
2. Matthew 10-15
3. Matthew 16-22
4. Matthew 23-28
5. Mark 1-8
6. Mark 9-16
7. Luke 1-6
8. Luke 7-11
9. Luke 12-18
10. Luke 19-24
11. John 1-7
12. John 8-13
13. John 14-22
14. Acts 1-7
15. Acts 8-14
16. Acts 15-21
17. Acts 22-28
18. Romans 1-8
19. Romans 9-16
20. 1 Corinthians 1-9
21. 1 Corinthians 10-16
22. 2 Corinthians 1-13
23. Galatians - Ephesians
24. Philippians - 2 Thessalonians
25. 1 Timothy - Philemon
26. Hebrews
27. James - 2 Peter
28. 1 John - 3 John
29. Revelation 1-11
30. Revelation 12-22

3. HOW TO STUDY GOD'S WORD

"... they accepted the message eagerly and studied the Scriptures everyday ..."
Acts 17:11 (Ph)

"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15
(NASB)

The difference between reading and studying the Bible is that you
_____ when you study.

The secret of effective Bible study is knowing how to
_____.

SUGGESTED RESOURCES FOR BIBLE STUDY

Study Bibles:

- **The Best Personal Study Bible:**
"The Life Application Bible" NLT

Other Important Study Tools:

As many different translations as you can afford
(These can be purchased in parallel editions)

A complete concordance to match your translation.

- "Bible Dictionary"
- "Bible Commentary" ("Be" Series: Warren Wiersbe)

4. HOW TO MEMORIZE GOD'S WORD

"Keep my commandments and live, And my teaching as the apple of your eye.
Bind them on your fingers; Write them on the tablet of your heart." Proverbs 7:2-3
(NASB)

BENEFITS OF MEMORIZING SCRIPTURE

1. It helps me resist temptation.

"I have hidden your Word in my heart that I might not sin against you." Psalm
119:11 (NIV)

2. It helps me make wise decisions.

"Your Word is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path. Psalm 119:105 (NASB)

3. It strengthens me when I'm under stress.

4. It comforts me when I'm struggling.

5. It helps me witness to unbelievers.

"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the
reason for the hope that you have." 1 Peter 3:15 (NIV)

WHEN TO MEMORIZE A VERSE

- During Your Quiet Time
- While Exercising
- While Waiting (spare moments)
- At Bedtime (Psalm 63:6)

HOW TO MEMORIZE A VERSE

1. Pick a verse that speaks to you.
2. Say the reference before and after the verse.
3. Read the verse aloud many times. Record it!
4. Break the verse into natural phrases.
5. Write out the verse on a flash card.
6. Carry some cards with you at all times for review.
7. Display your verses in prominent places.
8. Always memorize the verse word perfect.
9. Get a partner so you can check each other.

Suggested beginning rate: 1-2 new verses a week.

THREE KEYS TO MEMORIZING: _____

We remember what is _____.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSES

The following verses suggest a "balance" in Scripture Memory. The verses selected are key verses in understanding the foundations of the Christian Life and Christian Growth. Do not feel tied-down to this suggested list. This is only a tool to lead you in an understanding of the importance of memorizing "key" verses.

Live the New Life:

Christ the Center	2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 2:20
Obedience to Christ	Romans 12:1; John 14:21
The Word	2 Timothy 3:16; Joshua 1:8
Prayer	John 15:7; Philippians 4:6-7
Fellowship	Matthew 18:20; Hebrews 10:24
Witnessing	Matthew 4:19; Romans 1:16

Proclaim Christ:

All Have Sinned	Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6
Sin's Penalty	Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27
Christ Paid the Penalty	Romans 5:8; 1 Peter 3:18
Salvation Not by Works	Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5
Must Receive Christ	John 1:12; Revelation 3:20
Assurance of Salvation	1 John 5:13; John 5:24

Rely on God's Resources:

His Spirit	1 Corinthians 3:16; 1 Corinthians 2:12
His Strength	Isaiah 41:10; Philippians 4:13
His Faithfulness	Lamentations 3:22; Numbers 23:19
His Peace	Isaiah 26:3; 1 Peter 5:7
His Provision	Romans 8:32; Philippians 4:19
His Help in Temptation	Hebrews 2:18; Psalm 119:9, 11

Be Christ's Disciple:

Put Christ First	Matthew 6:33; Luke 9:23
Separate from the World	1 John 2:15-16; Romans 12:2
Be Steadfast	1 Corinthians 15:58; Hebrews 12:3
Serve Others	Mark 10:45; 1 Corinthians 4:5
Give Generously	Proverbs 3:9-10; 2 Corinthians 9:6-7
Develop World Vision	Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:19-20

Grow in Christ-likeness:

Love	John 13:34-35; 1 John 3:18
Humility	Philippians 2:3-4; 1 Peter 5:5-6
Purity	Eph 3; 1 Peter 2:11
Honesty	Leviticus 19:11; Acts 24:16
Faith	Hebrews 11:6; Romans 4:20-21
Good Works	Galatians 6:9-10; Matthew 5:16

5. HOW TO MEDITATE ON GOD'S WORD

"(Those) who are always meditating on His Laws ... are like trees along a river bank bearing fruit ... they never wither and whatever they do prospers." Psalm 1:2-3 (LB)

Meditation is _____ about a Bible verse in order to discover how I can apply its truth to my own life.

WHY MEDITATE ON SCRIPTURE?

1. It is the key to becoming like Christ.

" ... Your life is shaped by your thoughts." Proverbs 4:23 (NIV)

" ... Be transformed by the renewing of your mind." Romans 12:2 (NIV)

"As we ... contemplate the Lord's glory, we are being transformed into His likeness ..." 1 Corinthians 3:18

2. It is the key to answered prayer.

"If you live your life in Me, and my words live in your hearts, you can ask for whatever you like, and it will come true for you." John 15:7 (Ph)

3. It is the key to successful living.

" ... Meditate on (the Word) day and night, so you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful." Joshua 1:8 (NIV)

SIX WAYS TO MEDITATE ON A VERSE

1. Picture it! Visualize the scene in your mind.
2. Pronounce it! Say the verse aloud, each time emphasizing a different word.
3. Paraphrase it! Rewrite the verse in your own words.
4. Personalize it! Replace the pronouns or people in the verse with your own name.
5. Pray it! Turn the verse into a prayer and say it back to God.
6. Probe it! Ask the following nine questions:

S.P.A.C.E.P.E.T.S. Questions

Is there any ...

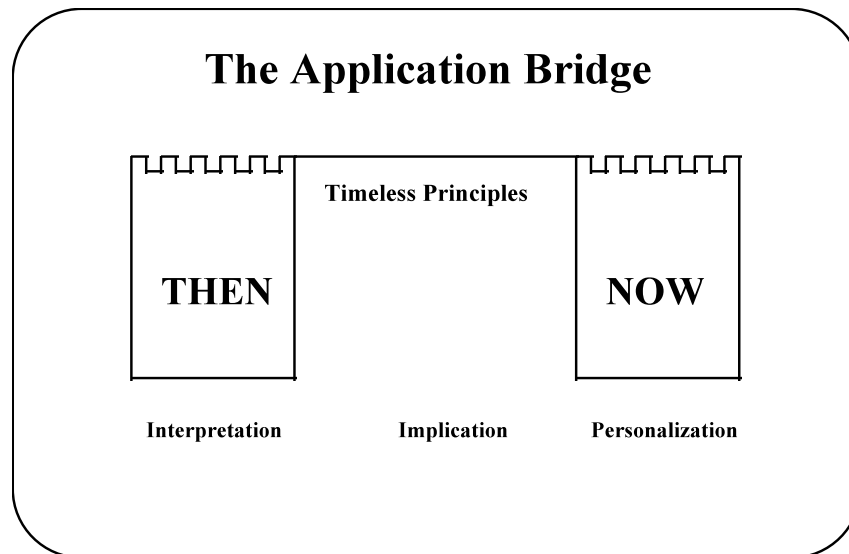
SIN TO CONFESS?
PROMISE TO CLAIM?
ATTITUDE TO CHANGE?
COMMAND TO KEEP?
EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW?
PRAYER TO PRAY?
ERROR TO AVOID?
TRUTH TO BELIEVE?
SOMETHING TO THANK GOD FOR?

6. HOW TO APPLY GOD'S WORD

"Do not fool yourselves by just listening to the Word. Instead, put it into practice."
James 1:22

The Bible was not given to us for information but for transformation!

HOW TO APPLY SCRIPTURE



1st ask: What did it mean to the original hearers?

2nd ask: What is the underlying timeless principle?

3rd ask: Where or how could I practice that principle?

Write out a sentence that describes a project or action you will take to apply the truth.

4 Marks of A Good Application Project

1. It's _____

2. It's _____

3. It's _____

4. It's _____

"Now that you know these things - do them! That is the path of blessing! John 13:17 (LB)