

LOVE GOD'S WORD

From Pastor Mark

ON MISSION: What are you living for in 2024? *The Mission of IBC is to exalt God by making Christ-like disciples who love God, His Word, His people, and His world.* A Christ-like disciple loves God's Word (Psalm 119:97). We love God's Word because we love God. This is because a relationship involves communication. The path to fulfillment in life is the path of *delight* and *meditation* in God's Word (Psalm 1:1-3).

Christ-like Disciples Who Love God's Word

I. WE PROVIDE EQUIPPING ELECTIVES

A. God gave His Word and gifted trainers to equip you.

1. The Word of God Equips God's People (2 Timothy 2:15).
2. God Wants You to Be Equipped (Ephesians 4:11-12).
 - a. God gave His Word (through *Apostles, Prophets*).
 - b. God gave Gifted Trainers (*Evangelists, Pastor-teachers*).
 - c. God wants you to be equipped to do works of service (4:12).

B. What will these equipping electives prepare you to do?

1. Be able to study God's Word on you own (2 Timothy 2:15). (*How to Study*)
2. Be able to understand and defend the Truth (1 Peter 3:15), (*Theology and Apologetics*)
3. Be able to apply and live by God's Word (James 1:22, walk-through). (*Practical Topics*)
4. Be able to pass on God's Word to others (2 Timothy 2:2).

II. WE EXPECT: What should you be doing on your own?

1. Knowing and using your spiritual gift as a member of the Body (Eph. 4:13-16).
2. Family Devotions to train your family (to love God's Word and know and use their gifts) (Ephesians 6:4, Dt. 6:6-7).
3. Personal Devotions (Heb. 4:12, 2 Cor. 3:18, Rom. 12:2)

Christ-like discipleship is all about LOVE... LOVE... LOVE... LOVE... *O how I love your Word!* (Ps. 119:97).

EQUIPPING ELECTIVES AND YOU...

Sundays or Wednesdays... Plug In!

TO DISCUSS WITH FAMILY OR FRIENDS:

1. Why is communication at the heart of any relationship? Read Psalm 119:47, 97,119, 140, and 159. Why is it true that if we love God, we will love His Word?
2. After hearing today's message about "Christ-like disciples who love God's Word," what step does God want you to take to grow in your love for God's Word?

FOR NEXT TIME—Read I John 3:11-18, *Love God's People*