Do What Makes You Holy: Bible Study & Community

I. Why Study? What God's Word Does for Us

1. God's Word FEEDS us.

*4 "But Jesus told him, "No! The Scriptures say, **'People do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"** Matthew 4:4 (NLT)*

2. God's Word FASHIONS (shapes) us.

*12 "For the word of God is **alive and powerful**. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. **It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.**"*
Hebrews 4:12 (NLT)
*17 "Make them **holy** by Your truth; **teach** them Your word, which is truth." John 17:17 (NLT)*

3. God's Word LEADS and GUIDES us.

*"Your word is a lamp to **guide** my feet and a light **for my path**." Psalm 119:105 (NLT)*

II. An Invitation to Tap into the Source

- Our relationship with God is **PERSONAL**, but our walk was never intended to be **ISOLATED.**
- Community: group of people who share common interests, values, location, or beliefs.

42 "All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer. 46 They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity." Acts 2:42,46 (NLT)

1. Tapping into the Source requires a commitment to READING Scripture DAILY and FAMILIALLY. (Consistently exposing ourselves and our families to God's Word.)

*"Oh, the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers. 2 But they delight in **the law of the LORD**, meditating on it **day and night**." Psalm 1:1-2 (NLT)*

*"And you must **commit** yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. 7 **Repeat them again and again** to your children. **Talk about them** when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. 8 Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. 9 **Write them** on the doorposts of your house and on your gates." Deuteronomy. 6:6-9 (NLT)*

Why? To LEARN, TEACH, and REMEMBER.

2. Tapping into the Source requires a commitment to STUDYING Scripture INDIVIDUALLY and COMMUNALLY. (Pursuing a deeper understanding of God's Word, both personally and with other believers.)

*8 "**Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night** so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do." Joshua 1:8 (NLT)*

*10 "This was because Ezra had determined **to study** and **obey** the Law of the LORD **and** to **teach** those decrees and regulations to **the people of Israel**." Ezra 7:10 (NLT)*

8 "They read from the Book of the Law of God and clearly explained the meaning of what was being read, helping the people understand each passage." Nehemiah 8:8 (NLT)

*11 "And the people of Berea were more open-minded than those in Thessalonica, and they listened eagerly to Paul's message. **They searched the Scriptures day after day** to see if Paul and Silas were teaching the **truth**." Acts 17:11 (NLT)*

Why? To EXAMINE, UNDERSTAND, GROW.

3. Tapping into the Source requires a commitment to APPLYING Scripture INTENTIONALLY and COLLECTIVELY. (Putting God's Word into practice and helping our community to live it out.)

*22 "But **don't just listen** to God's word. You must **do** what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. 25 But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you **do** what it says and **don't forget** what you **heard**, then God will bless you for doing it." James 1:22, 25 (NLT)*

16 "Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives." Colossians 3:16a (NLT)

*24 "Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. 25 **And let us not neglect our meeting together**, as some people do, but **encourage one another**, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near." Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT)*

Why? To OBEY, DISPLAY, ENCOURAGE.

Ultimate Mission: Matthew 28:19-20