

## Day 34: Spiritual Disciplines ~ Study the Word

There is nothing more powerful than the Word of God. The Bible continues to withstand time and culture. Why? It is alive and powerful. Hebrews 4:12 reminds us, “For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.”

We read the Bible to learn about who God is and His promises. The stories teach compelling life lessons. If what we learned was the only by-product, then we would be satisfied. However, while we study scripture, it reads us. Like a mirror, we see ourselves and areas where we need to repent, grow, and change. 2 Timothy 3:16-17, “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.” The Bible prepares our hearts and makes us look more like Jesus.

If we want to live in freedom daily, we have to be steeped in His word. This is not an optional task but mandatory.

Do you have trouble understanding what the Lord is communicating through scripture at times? I know I do. The way to address this concern is to purchase a study Bible, commentaries, and a Bible dictionary.

A sure way to remain committed to this discipline is to develop a schedule. One way is to wake up every morning and read. Others dive into the Word prior to bed. The point is to establish something that works for you.

Want to know what the Lord's will is for your life? Paul urges each one of us in Romans 12:2, “Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.” We are to renew our minds in the Word of God.

## Day 34 Worksheet

Do you have a study schedule for the Bible? If yes, what is it? If not, why not?

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What is your favorite Old Testament book? What is your favorite New Testament book?

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What do you do when you lack understanding of scripture?

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Read Hebrews 4:12 again. Write what it says to you.

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Write an action plan on how you will incorporate studying the Bible into your daily life?

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