

## Devotion 2: Eagerly Examining the Word Every Day WILL Bring Opposition

*Acts 17:10–13 (ESV) The brothers immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea... Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so. Many of them therefore believed... But when the Jews from Thessalonica learned that the word of God was proclaimed by Paul at Berea also, they came there too, agitating and stirring up the crowds.*

The Bereans model something powerful and wise for us: They received God’s Word with eagerness, examined it carefully, and did so every day. This daily pursuit led many to faith—including prominent Greeks. Yet notice what happened next: Opposition arrived. Antagonists traveled from Thessalonica to Berea specifically to agitate and stir up trouble—because the Word was being proclaimed and embraced.

When we commit to eagerly examining Scripture daily, we can expect spiritual opposition. We have a real enemy—the devil—who prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour (1 Peter 5:8). He doesn’t want us thriving in God’s Word. He will distract, discourage, and sow doubt to pull us away. You can count on it.

But we don’t have to be caught off guard. As Craig Groeschel once taught, great change begins with pre-deciding—making intentional choices ahead of time so you don’t have to re-decide in the heat of the moment. We don’t drift into consistency being in His Word; we decide into it. Habits, not just hopes, transform our lives. Most people drift into distraction or inconsistency, but you can pre-decide to prioritize what matters most. Define the habit of being in the Word clearly—what time, where, how long—and build your schedule around it. Pre-decide that nothing will hinder your daily time in the Word, and let this one faithful habit overflow into greater spiritual strength and maturity.

During this Seek Week, let’s pre-decide to stand firm and let’s worship in faith. Pray using the pattern: “He is Worthy” (Praise Him or Thank Him) and “We are Needy” (Protection, overcome temptation, consistency, etc.)

### PRAY

During this Seek Week, let’s worship in faith. Pray using the pattern: “He is Worthy” (praise amid suffering and hope) and “We are Needy” (intercession and commitment to witness).

- Lord, I praise you for being \_\_\_\_\_

(Examples to fill in: victorious, all-powerful, protector, good, kind, merciful, forgiving, gracious, present, faithful, etc.)

**WE ARE NEEDY:**

As you consider this passage today, here are some ways you can **PRAY** as you **SEEK** God today.

- Lord, give me strength to pre-decide my daily time in Your Word. Help me define this habit clearly: I will read and examine Scripture every day at \_\_\_\_\_ (time/place) for \_\_\_\_\_ (duration).
- Lord, when temptation comes to neglect Your Word, help me overcome it. Remind me that I am choosing what I want most—closeness with You—over what I want now.
- Lord, protect me from the enemy's attacks on my consistency. Shield my mind from distractions and doubts, and let Your Word be my daily defense.

Go forward today with resolve: Pre-decide to be in His Word every day. Opposition may come, but God's strength and protection are greater. You can stand firm—because He is with you.