

Key Points: The Habit of Study & Learning

1. Following Jesus involves developing habits.

- Christian discipleship isn't just about what we believe; it is about practicing habits that shape our whole lives.
- Some spiritual habits will come naturally, while others may require more intentional effort.

2. Study and learning are essential parts of discipleship.

- We shouldn't dismiss study simply because it isn't something we naturally enjoy.
- If we want to experience the fullness of life in Christ, we are called to grow in every area of our lives.

3. God's Word deserves our attention.

- Deuteronomy 6 calls God's people to keep God's Word continually before them—talking about it throughout the ordinary rhythms of daily life and teaching it to their children.
- God has revealed God's self and the good news of Jesus Christ to us, making God's Word worthy of our study and attention.

4. We are always learning something.

- Every day we choose what we put into our minds through what we watch, read, listen to, and engage with.
- Those choices reveal what we consider important and worthy of our attention.

5. What we put into our minds shapes who we become.

- Our thoughts influence what matters to us, how we see ourselves, and how we live.
- The things we continually consume can lead us toward comparison, envy, anger, or division—or toward the peace and perspective of Christ.

6. Studying God's Word can renew our minds.

- In the midst of difficult news, social media, and the brokenness of the world, Scripture helps us see life through the perspective of faith.
- Learning about God and what Christ is doing can fill us with things that move us toward the peace of Christ.

7. We are created in the image of God—with minds capable of learning.

- Being made in God's image is a gift and a responsibility.
- We can intentionally use our minds to know God, understand God's love, and grow as Christ's people.

8. Learning is meant to continue throughout our lives.

- The sermon connects this with the Methodist tradition of lifelong learning and investing in education.
- Spiritual growth isn't something that stops at a particular age or stage of life.

9. We learn better together.

- Bible studies, Sunday School classes, Christian books, teachers, and conversations with other believers all provide opportunities to grow.
- Asking questions and discussing difficult subjects with other Christians can deepen our understanding.

10. Be intentional about what you are learning.

- The challenge is to make study and learning an intentional Christian habit.
- We are encouraged to take advantage of opportunities to study Scripture, learn about our faith, and grow in understanding.

The Big Takeaway

What we put into our minds shapes who we become.

As followers of Jesus, we are called to intentionally fill our minds and hearts with God's Word, learn together, ask questions, and continually grow in our understanding of God and what it means to live as disciples of Christ.