

What Daily Bible Study Needs

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalms 119:105-107

I. DAILY BIBLE STUDY NEEDS...

A. Respect for the Bible's Authority

1. All scripture is breathed out by God. (2 Timothy 3:15-17)
 - a. "inspiration" – theopneustos – "theo" (God) + "pneo" (to breath)
 - b. The prophets of the Old Testament period spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. (2 Peter 1:19-21)
 - c. David was moved by the spirit of the Lord. (2 Samuel 23:1-3)
 - d. The apostles spoke as they were inspired by the Holy Spirit. (John 14:26; 16:7-15; Acts 2:1-4)
2. The Word came in the flesh. (John 1:1-14)
 - a. Jesus taught according to the Father's will. (John 12:44-50)
 - b. Those who reject Jesus will be judged by the words of which Jesus spoke.
3. Hold God's word to be "living and powerful." (Hebrews 4:11-13)
4. Trust that God's word will endure forever. (Isaiah 40:6-8; cf. 1 Peter 1:24-25)
5. If we respect the authority of the Bible, then we will let God's word lead us in our walk as His children. (Romans 8:14-17)

B. A Desire and Love for God's Word.

1. Treasure God's word more than "necessary foods."
 - a. Job treasured the words of the Lord more than food.
 - 1) *"I have not departed from the commandment of His lips; I have treasured the words of His mouth more than my necessary food."* (Job 23:12)

- 2) Jesus said something similar. He said, *"My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work."* (John 4:34)
- 3) The results of Job treasuring the words of God more than food can be seen Job 1:1-5.
- b. Jeremiah wrote, *"Your words were found, and I ate them, and Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; For I am called by Your name, O LORD God of hosts."* (Jeremiah 15:16)
- c. David wrote, *"How sweet are Your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!"* (Psalms 119:103)
2. Make God's word a vital, daily necessity for your life.
 - a. Jesus said man is to live by every word of God. (Matthew 4:4; cf. Deuteronomy 8:3)
 - b. For the young Christian, the Bible is spiritual milk to help you grow to maturity. (cf. Hebrews 5:12-14; 1 Peter 2:2)
 - c. When we study the Word, we are partaking of the "bread of life." (cf. John 6:35,63)
3. Develop a love the word of God.
 - a. Consider David. Psalm 119:14-16, 97, 165
 - b. Paul wrote, *"For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man."* (Romans 7:22)
4. When we desire and love the Word of the God, then Bible study becomes a desired part of our daily existence. Just as we desire to fill our bellies, we should desire all the more to fill our hearts and mind with God's wonderful word.
- C. Daily Prayer.
 1. Let us pray that our Bible studies will be fruitful.
 - a. Pray for wisdom. (James 1:4-6)
 - b. Pray for understanding. (Colossians 1:9-11)
 - c. Pray for "revelation in the knowledge of" Jesus. (Ephesians 1:17-21)

- d. Pray for knowledge and discernment. (Philippians 1:9-11)
 - 2. Prayer reminds us of our reliance upon God and the directions found in His Word. Prayer causes us to acknowledge what is within our hearts and minds. If we are honest with ourselves, prayer can also help us to recognize what we do not yet understand.
- D. Consistency.
- 1. Consistent Bible study is essential to our continued growth.
 - a. Sporadically reading Bible verses on Sunday is not enough exposure to God's word.
 - b. Daily Bible study helps to reinforce what we have learned while improving our understanding as we grow. We see this growth towards maturity referenced in Hebrews 5:12-14.
 - 2. Make Bible study a daily pattern.
 - a. Daily practice is implied in Deuteronomy 6:4-9.
 - b. The Bereans searched the scriptures daily. (Acts 17:11)
 - 1) However, we must learn from and apply what we study. (cf. John 5:39-40)
 - c. God told Joshua to meditate day and night on the Law. (Joshua 1:8; cf. Psalm 1:2)
 - 3. Consistency will help us keep God's word in our lives.
 - a. The nation of Israel walked away from the Lord because they neglected His word.
 - 1) Hosea wrote, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." (Hosea 4:6)
 - 2) Amos spoke of a famine of hearing God's word coming upon Israel. (Amos 8:11)
 - b. Studying the Bible daily helps to keep God's words in our mouth and our hearts. (Romans 10:5-11)

CONCLUSION.

- A. Daily Bible study needs the following:
 - 1. Respect for the Bible's authority as the word of God.
 - 2. Desire and love for God's word.
 - 3. Daily prayer.
 - 4. Consistency.
- B. In Psalm 119:105, David said, *"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."* A lamp only helps if it is lit and carried. By respecting the Bible's authority and staying consistent in study and prayer, we keep that lamp burning. Don't let your spiritual life suffer from a famine of the Word; feast on it daily and watch your walk with Christ grow steady and sure.

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