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**Bible Basics 3**

**How to read the Bible for Yourself**

There are different facets to reading the Bible. Ask yourself what it is you want from your time in God’s Word and you’ll have a better idea of how to approach the Bible. Do I want…

* Information
* Revelation

Even if you only want information you will likely receive a revelation of God in one way or another. There is a difference between Bible Study and Meditation.

Psalm 119

3 Things are common to study or meditation:

1. Mental Work
2. Discipline
3. Time

Of course, lovers always outwork the workers so I suggest before you do anything, set yourself to receive the LOVE!

**So, practically how do I “study” the Bible?**

**As a Whole**

Daily Reading

**Book by Book**

Choose a book, take notes, read repeatedly

Basic Questions to Ask:

1. Author?
2. What were the circumstances of the author when written?
3. To whom was the book written?
4. Tell something about them.

**Chapter by Chapter**

Analyze the Chapter

1. What is the main subject?
2. Who are the main people?
3. What does it say about Christ?
4. What is the key or main verse?
5. What is the central lesson
6. What are the main promises?
7. What are the main commands?
8. What error should I avoid?
9. What example is here?
10. What do I need most in this chapter to apply to my life today?

Write a brief summary of the chapter.

Outline the chapter

**Character Studies**

**Topic Studies**

**The Four “R”’s of Meditation and Contemplation**

*Taken from Todd Bentley Open Heavens Bible*

Part of waiting in God’s presence involves contemplating and meditating on Scripture until the Holy Spirit gives us revelation and understanding of God’s heart and mind. Here are four steps you can take to practice meditation:

1. Read the Word quickly and out loud so you can hear it.
2. Respond to it with your heart and mind. Respond to the passages that were most meaningful and reread those.
3. Recollect or meditate with an open mind and heart to God’s will.
4. Rest in His presence.

Following are some powerful scriptures to kick-start your meditation and motivate you to continue with this life-changing way of connecting with God and His Word:

“With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments! Your word have I hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.” Psalm 119:10,11

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.” Colossians 3:16

“My son, give attention to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; keep them in the midst of your heart; for they are life to those who find them, and health to all their flesh.” Proverbs 4:20-22

“Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall teach them to your children, speaking of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. And you shall write them on the doorpost of your house and on your gates, that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land of which the LORD swore to your fathers to give them, like the days of the heavens above the earth.” Deuteronomy 11:18-21

**Soaking Activation**

As you begin soaking in God’s presence, ask Him to forgive you for being so busy and distant. Ask Him to help you silence your heart and mind so you can hear His voice. Covenant with God to seek Him and enter into the secret place.

Now is the time to be marinated in God, to be saturated with the Holy Spirit.