

MEMORY VERSE: “So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.” Isaiah 55:11, NKJV

LESSON STUDY INTRO

“This week we’ll explore some practical ways to study the Word of God better.” Qtly, Sab, par 3

1. A devotional life requires devotion (Sun, Mon, Wed)

- Scripture relatedly encourages us to devote time, particularly in the morning, to communion with God (Ps. 63:1; Is. 26:9).
 - Jesus was consistent in His morning time with God (see Mk. 1:35).

In childhood, youth, and manhood, Jesus studied the Scriptures... In His youth the early morning and the evening twilight often found Him alone on the mountainside or among the trees of the forest, spending a quiet hour in prayer and the study of God’s word. During His ministry His intimate acquaintance with the Scriptures testifies to His diligence in their study. Ed 185

He was faithful in the discharge of His home duties, and the early morning hours, instead of being wasted in bed, often found Him in a retired place, meditating and searching the Scriptures and in prayer. FE 402

- A consistent *place* of communion with God is also important.
 - As Daniel regularly prayed at his open window (see Dan. 6:10) and Jesus likewise on the Mount of Olives (see GW92 106), so we should have a set place for daily study and prayer.
 - “By forming a daily habit of going to a certain place to spend time with God, you’ll be more likely to return there each day.”
Qtly, Mon, par 3
- Even if you don’t always meet your daily devotional goals, keep coming back!
 - See Qtly, Wed, par 6
 - And don’t forget to check out the GC SSPM app!

2. Through Bible study, God speaks to us (Tue, Thu, Fri)

- Just as we speak to God in prayer, God speaks to us through His Word (see Ps 119:103, 14; Is. 55:1-3; 10, 11; Heb. 11:6).
 - “God’s living and powerful Word cuts straight to our hearts, minds, and souls as it challenges us to grow in Christ. But it can do this for us only to the degree that we take the time and effort (and yes, it takes effort) to delve into the Word with an attitude of submission and humility and a willingness to follow what it teaches.” (Qtly, Thu, par 4)

Whatever may be man’s intellectual advancement, let him not for a moment think that there is no need of thorough and continuous searching of the Scriptures for greater light. As a people, we are called individually to be students of prophecy. CW 41 (Qtly Fri, par 4)

- For practical tips on a deeper daily experience in God’s Word, see Tuesday’s lesson.

3. A great way to retain Bible truth is to share it (Tue, Wed)

- Trying to explain what we’ve learned to others helps us to develop a clearer understanding of the truth for ourselves.
 - “Something that will help keep your Bible study time vibrant is sharing with others what you’ve discovered. When we explain what we’ve learned, the summarizing, synthesizing process consolidates our thoughts. This helps us retain knowledge. The double blessing is that when we share and discuss with others, the spiritual conversation will often challenge and strengthen both of you. It’s often when we share or teach others that the deepest learning occurs in our own minds.” Qtly, Wed, par 3
- There are multiple ways to share your insights with others:
 - Daily witnessing in personal conversations.
 - Leading a personal Bible study.
 - Teaching a Sabbath School class or hosting a small group in your home or office, etc.

CONCLUSION

“Personal Bible study is at the heart of having a vibrant and enduring relationship with God. God’s Word speaks into our twenty-first-century lives in meaningful ways, just as it has during past centuries. In a similar way to keeping any friendship alive, we should look for ways to keep our devotional lives vivid as we abide in Jesus.” Qtly, Fri, par 4