

The Godly Man as a Disciple

The Wheel – Vertical Spokes

We continue our study of The Wheel Illustration by looking at the two vertical spokes. These represent our vertical relationship to God, and involve a regular, day-to-day intake of God’s Word, and a consistent, purposeful devotion to prayer.

The Word of God

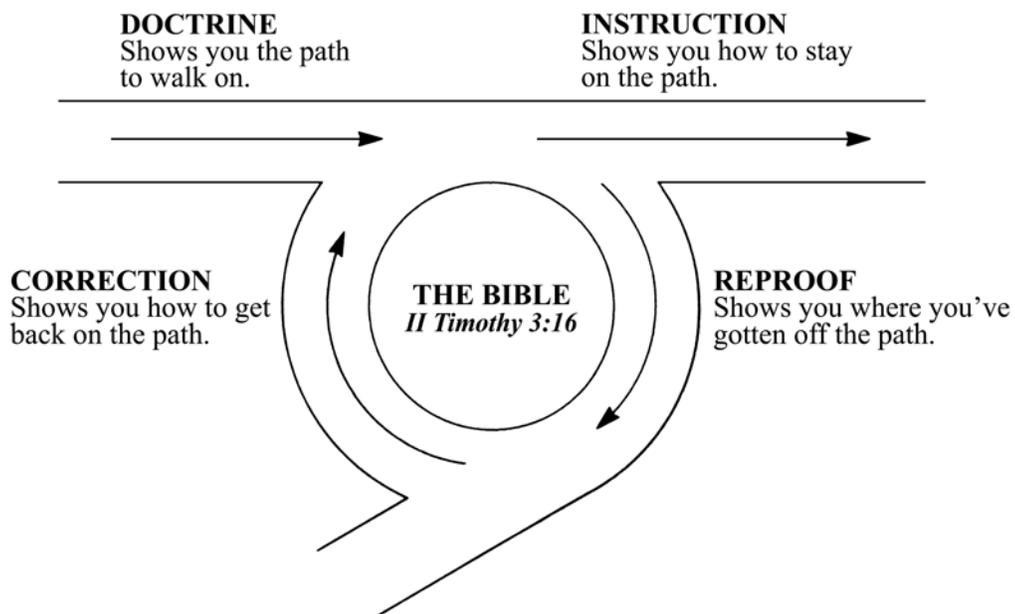
1. Why do you believe what you believe? Or, asking it another way, what is the basis of your final authority for what you believe? *(Check one of the following)*

- A. It seems reasonable to me.
- B. I feel that way about it.
- C. My own experience.
- D. The experience of others.
- E. My church tells me.
- F. My parents taught me.
- G. The Bible.
- H. The sacred writings of the ages.



2. In II Timothy 3:16, what does the Bible say about:

- a. It's origin?
- b. It's profit in:
 - 1) - What to believe and do.
 - 2) - When we get off the road.
 - 3) - How to get back on the road.
 - 4) - How to stay on the road.



3. List opposite the scriptures below some further claims of the Bible:



- II Timothy 3:15
- I Peter 2:2
- Psalm 119:105
- John 15:3
- Psalm 119:165
- Romans 10:17

The Word of God is:

- MATCHLESS** ----- Man cannot duplicate it.
- ULTIMATE** ----- It is final, it will not be changed, John 12:48.
- PERFECT** ----- How would you improve on John 3:16?
- TIMELESS** ----- The Bible works now and forever.
- INDESTRUCTABLE** -- Man cannot destroy it. Luke 21:33.

Whenever the Word of God is ineffective in a life, it is for one of three reasons:

- 1) Neglect
- 2) Doubt
- 3) Disobedience

Prayer

- 1. Define prayer
- 2. What are two reasons why we miss much of what God has for us?
 - a. James 4:2
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 - b. James 4:3
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- 3. Prayer is an act of faith. How should we pray? Matthew 21:22
- 4. Since God knows our needs (Matthew 6:8), why should we bring them before Him?



Match the Phrases with the Verses:

- Luke 18:1 (...) 1. So our joy might be complete
- John 16:24 (...) 2. It is commanded.
- Psalm 62:8 (...) 3. To experience His peace.
- Philippians 4:6-7 (...) 4. To demonstrate trust in Him

- 5. What do you feel Matthew 7:7 teaches about prayer?
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6. Our God is a God of law and order. The physical laws operate in certain ways. Effects obey causes. This is true spiritually. God has placed some conditions on effective prayer. Discover and list some of them below.

- Isaiah 59:1, 2
- I John 3:22
- I John 5:14, 15
- I Peter 3:7



7. How can we know when we are praying “according to God's will?”

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8. What does it mean to pray “In Jesus Name?”

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9. How can we prevent sin from hindering our prayer life? IJohn 1:9

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10. Most people have experienced the discouragement of seemingly unanswered prayers. Match up some reasons for ineffective prayer with the verses below:

- Job 35:12-13 () 1. Lack of heart preparation
- Ephesians 6:12 () 2. Pride
- Psalms 139:23-24 () 3. Satan's hindering
- Matthew 6:33 () 4. Poor value system
- Mark 11:25-26 () 5. Lack of faith
- James 1:6-8 () 6. Unforgiving spirit

11. We have discovered some conditions of effective prayer and some hindrances. Which two do you feel you fail in most?

Why?

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12. What will you do this week to allow God to begin correcting these in your life?

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13. Who will you ask to check up on you next week?

Suggestions For Further Study

- Tape 368 - Knowing Christ as a Friend, Sidlow Baxter
- Tape 1246 - Immediate Asking and Receiving, Rosalind Rinker
- Tape 60 - Authority and Sufficiency of Scripture, Lorne Sanny
- Tape 87 - The Word of God, W.A. Criswell

- Discovering How to Pray, by Hope McDonald, Londervan
- Prayer, by O'Hallesby, Augsburg Press
- The Prayer Life, by Andrew Murray, Moody Press
- How to Pray, by R. A. Torrey, Moody Press
- Prevailing Prayer, by D. L. Moody, Moody Press