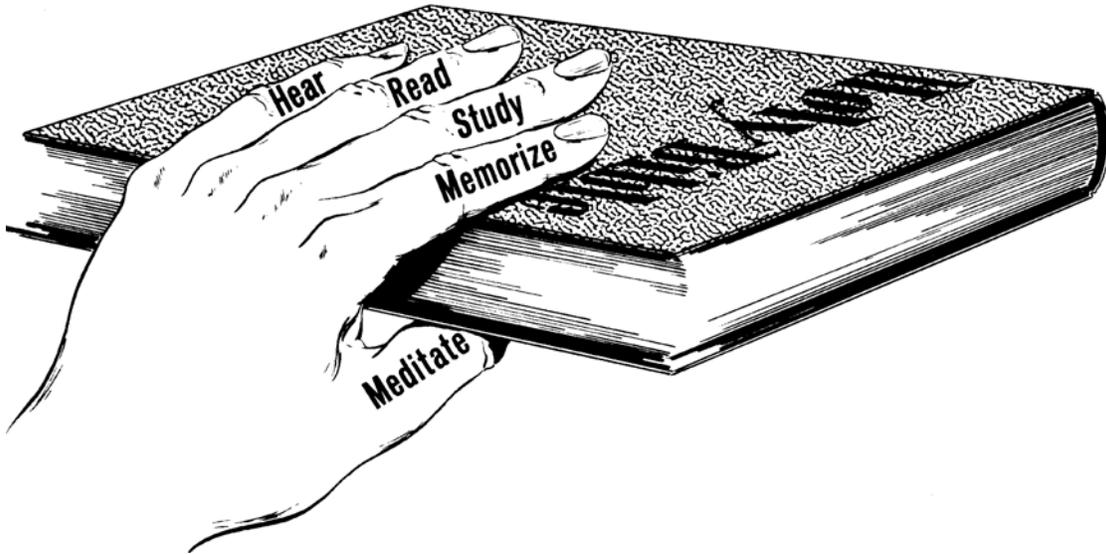


The Hand Illustration

Abiding in God's Word



Hear to be informed - *Romans 10:17; Jeremiah 3:15*

Hearing the Word from godly pastors and teachers provides us insight into other's study of the Scriptures as well as stimulating our own appetites for the Word.

Read to be healthy - *Revelation 1:3; Deuteronomy 17:19*

Reading the Bible gives us an overall picture of God's Word. Many find helpful a daily reading program which takes them systematically through the Bible.

Study to be intelligent - *Acts 17:11; II Timothy 2:15*

Studying the Scriptures leads us into personal discoveries of God's truths. Writing down these discoveries helps us organize and remember them better.

Memorize to be skillful - *Deuteronomy 6:6-7; Proverbs 7:1-3*

Memorizing God's Word enables us to have it readily available for personal meditation, for witnessing to and helping others, and for overcoming temptations.

Meditate to be fruitful - *Psalms 1:2-3; I Timothy 4:15*

Meditating on God's Word, thinking of its meaning and application to our daily life, enables us to release its transforming power to continually work within us.

Apply to be obedient - *Ezra 7:10; James 1:22*

Application of the Word of God to our daily life is a continual process that enables us to obediently walk in close personal fellowship with Him.

Proclaim to be reproductive - *Colossians 1:28-29; II Timothy 2:2*

Our objective: To know, love and glorify God, to be used of Him to raise up qualified laborers in significant numbers, as fast as possible, to help fulfill the Great Commission.

The Godly Man as a Disciple

The Importance Of God's Word

Abiding In The Word Of God – *Take It In, Think It Over, Live It Out, Pass It On*

There are five basic ways we **take in** the Word of God. Since God is more interested in making us something than in simply teaching us something, (Ephesians 1:12) how much of His Word we retain and apply is vitally important. Consider the following statistics which reveal the retention rate of these five intake methods:

<i>Method</i>	<i>Retention</i>
Hear	5-10%
Read	10-15%
Study	20-35%
Memorize	100%
Meditate	Varies



1. Write out the following verses in your own words and write down what method of scripture intake is represented.

a. **Intake Method:**

Acts 17:11

 II Timothy 2:15.....

b. **Intake Method:**

Romans 10:17

 Jeremiah 3:15.....

c. **Intake Method:**

Revelation 1:3.....

 Deuteronomy 17:19.....

d. **Intake Method:**

Deuteronomy 6:6.....

Proverbs 7:1-3.....

e. **Intake Method:**

Psalm 1:2-3.....

Psalm 119:15-16.....

3. How many of these ways do you feel are vital for a growing Christian?

4. Just a word about each of the ways:

a. Hearing - don't neglect the fellowship of believers. Hebrews 10:25.

b. Reading - If you have never read through the Bible completely in a year, why not start now? Four chapters a day will more than put you through. From year to year, why not use different translations? They will help keep your reading fresh and allow God to reveal to you different facets of His truth.

c. Studying - study differs from reading in several ways. We will be experiencing several types of Bible study farther on in this booklet. To study, the following elements should be present:

- 1) Original investigation.
- 2) Written reproduction.
- 3) Consistency.
- 4) Personal Application.
- 5) "Pass-on-able" (it should be so real to our lives that we can pass it on to others).

d. Memorizing - scripture memory pays dividends. It is not easy. It reaches the sub-conscious levels of our very being. Pray before attempting it. You will need God's help. Memory courses are available from:

The Navigators: [Beginning With Christ](#)

The Navigators: [Topical Memory System](#)

Moody Bible Institute: [Memorize the Word](#)



e. Meditation - this is spiritual digestion. It is getting the Word of God from the head to the heart and into the life. Why not pray over the verses you are memorizing phrase by phrase as a form of meditation, or why not personalize the scripture as it is below for your meditation time:



“I am living a brand new kind of life that is continually learning more and more what is right, and trying constantly to be more and more like Christ who created this new life within me. In this new life, one's nationality or race or education or social position is not important; such things mean nothing - whether a person has Christ is what matters, and He is equally available to all. Since I have been chosen by God, who has given me this new kind of life, and because of His deep love and concern for me, I should practice tender hearted mercy and kindness to others. I should not worry about making a good impression on them, but be ready to suffer quietly and patiently. I should be gentle and ready to forgive, never holding grudges, and remembering that the Lord forgave me, so I must forgive others. I should let love guide my life, for then the whole church will stay together in perfect harmony. I will let the peace of heart which comes from Christ be always present in my heart and life, for this is my responsibility and privilege as a member of His Body, and I should always be thankful. I want to remember what Christ has taught and let His words enrich my life and make me wise. I would like to teach them to others and to sing them out in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing to the Lord from a thankful heart.” Colossians 3:10-16

5. Which way of scripture intake do you feel is most needed in your life currently?

.....

6. What will you do in the next seven days to start correcting this lack? (every journey is made by taking the first step - make a start)

.....

Suggestions For Further Study

- Tape 1595 - The Hand Illustration, Max Barnett
- Tape 1955 - Scripture Memory, Max Barnett
- Tape 820 - Scripture Memory, Lorne Sanny
- Tape 258 - Bible Study, Chuck Farah

Primer on Meditation, by The Navigators, Colorado Springs, Colorado

How To Make A Personal Application From Bible Study

Every Bible study must include some kind of personal application that will make the study relevant and meaningful to your life. Here are three specific suggestions on how to write personal applications from any Bible study you undertake.

A. What impresses me most?

(Generally, as you study a subject or a portion, God by His Spirit will lay some particular aspect on your heart. Pray that God will open your eyes to a specific application. Ask Him what He wants you to do about it.

B. Where do I fall short in this?

(When God speaks to you about a particular aspect of this study, write out the place where you fall short in this area. Use personal singular pronouns, I, Me, etc. An application should be *personal, practical and possible*. It should be concerned with a truth which may be translated into daily life and should be clearly stated. The application may deal with your relation to God or your relation to man. It should result in personal spiritual enrichment and uplifting by deepening your relationship to the Lord, or should improve your relationship to fellow Christians or those outside Christ.

C. What do I intend to do about it, with God's help?

(Write out your intention as a definite action that you will take now to correct the weakness, build the needed quality into your life, strengthen the understanding, etc. This action may be memorizing a verse on the subject, or making a special study on it, or praying daily about the need. It may be writing a letter of apology, righting some harm done, etc. Whatever the action - *be specific*.