

His Word in My Heart

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I. Introduction.

- A. The Word of God is an important topic.
- B. The primary motive of Satan every morning is to interfere with our daily nourishment.
- C. Five ways to get the Word into our hearts.
- D. We need to feed on it to be healthy, study it to be intelligent, memorize it to be skillful, meditate on it to be spiritual, and apply it to be mature.

II. We need to feed on the Word to be healthy Christians.

A. Reading and hearing the Word brings blessing to us. We are to desire it. (Revelation 1:3; 1 Peter 2:2-3)

B. What food does for our physical body, the Word does for our spiritual life.

- 1. Although people do not remember what they ate, they are nourished by it. Taking in nourishment does not depend upon memorizing the menu.
- 2. God's Word is better than necessary food. (Job 23:12; Jeremiah 15:16)
- 3. We are "boning up for the finals" in reading the world.

III. We need to study the Word to be intelligent Christians.

A. Being able to organize content to present and to be examined takes more than reading for reproduction. This is the difference between reading and studying.

B. Requirements of a good Bible study:

- 1. Original investigation.
 - a. Epistles were not originally delivered with ten commentaries.
 - b. Original discovery is always the best.
- 2. Written reproduction. Thoughts disentangle when they flow out the end of a pen.
- 3. Systematic and progressive. This is designed to cover the whole Bible.
- 4. Personal application.
- 5. "Pass-on-able."

- a. It must be simple enough that it can be passed on to others and reproduced.
- b. The challenge is how we can master the English Bible in our lifetime. We need a plan.

- 1) Someone suggests reading through a book of the Bible enough times that one can list a title for each section.

- 2) An example through Esther.

C. The value of studying.

- 1. Sometimes in hearing we only get a little “whiff” of the Word of God.
- 2. The Bereans tested everything that was said by checking the Word of God.
- 3. Hearing the Word should stimulate us to study.

IV. We need to memorize the Word to be skillful Christians.

- A. Memorization builds credibility with others.
- B. Memorization helps one’s personal life. It keeps us from sin and backsliding.
- C. You cannot argue with God.
- D. The Holy Spirit knows what the need is, and He can direct us to memorized verses to supply.

V. We need to meditate on the Word to be fruitful Christians.

- A. Meditation is rumination. Nourishment is extracted and it goes into your life.
- B. When we meditate we literally share the life of Christ. This overflows in fruitfulness. (John 6:63)
- C. We are commanded to meditate. (Joshua 1:8; Psalm 1:2-3)
 - 1. To meditate in the night we are to use of the subconscious mind. At the end of the day the conscious mind passes the problems of the day to the subconscious mind and it prevents the body from resting.
 - 2. The secret to meditation is to make sure that the last waking thought is something from the Word of God. (Proverbs 6:22; Psalm 1:2-3)

VI. We need to apply the Word to be mature Christians.

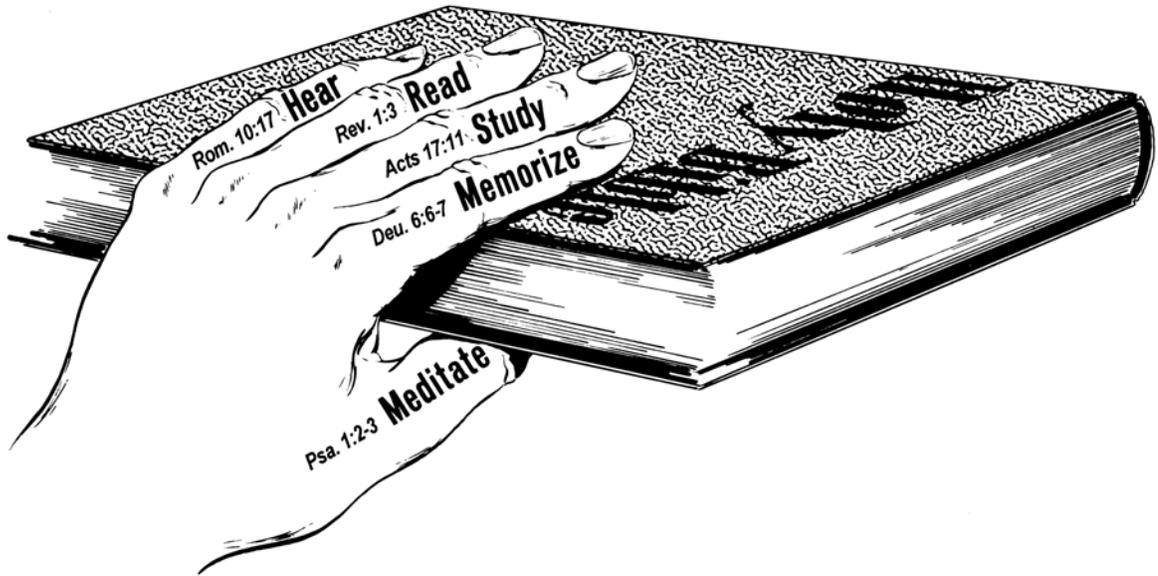
- A. The importance of doing. (James 1:22-23)
 - 1. It is unusual for a person to look into a mirror and not see something that needs an adjustment and not make that adjustment.

2. It is therefore an oddity for a person not to take immediate action when he sees a problem in his character to work on after looking into the Word of God.

B. The right sequence is to do first and then to teach. (Matthew 5:19; Acts 1:1)

C. The Word of God is able to build you up. We have what we need. (Acts 20:32)

D. Sin will keep you from the Word, or the Word will keep you from sin.



VII. Conclusion.

A. Satan is trying to keep us from the Word every day.

B. Review.

Application questions.

1. Review the five methods for getting the Word into your heart. Which ones stand out to you? Why?

2. Do you see some methods as more important than others? If so, why? Explain.

3. Are you lacking in any of these areas? How can you efficiently apply these methods of saturating yourself in God's Word in a way that most honors Him?
