

SIX WAYS TO GET A GRASP ON YOUR BIBLE

The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us do what is right. It is God's way of making us well prepared at every point, fully equipped to do good to everyone. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, LB)



HEARING GOD'S WORD

"Faith comes from hearing the Word of God." (Romans 10:17)

1. Deal with _____ that prevent you from hearing God.
(see the Parable of the Sower in Luke 8:4-15)
2. Take _____ on what you hear.
We must pay more careful attention to what we've heard, so that we do not drift away! (Hebrews 2:1)
3. _____ on what you hear!
Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says! (James 1:22)

READING GOD'S WORD

"(The Bible) shall be his constant companion. He must read from it every day of his life so that he will learn to respect the Lord his God by obeying all of his commands." (Deuteronomy 17:19)

STUDYING GOD'S WORD

"... they accepted the message eagerly and studied the Scriptures every day ..." (Acts 17:11)

The two secrets of effective Bible study are:

- (1) _____ other Scripture verses on the same subject
- (2) using other study helps to answer _____ questions

MEMORIZING GOD'S WORD

"Guard my words as your most precious possession. Write them down, and also keep them deep within your heart." (Proverbs 7:2-3)

Some of the benefits of memorizing Scripture:

1. It helps me resist _____.

I have hidden your Word in my heart that I might not sin against you. (Psalm 119:11)

2. It helps me make wise _____.

Your Word is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path. (Psalm 119:105)

3. It _____ me when I'm under stress.

... Your promises to me are my hope. They give me strength in all my troubles; how they refresh and revive me! (Psalm 119:49)

4. It _____ me when I'm sad.

Your words are what sustain me ... They bring joy to my sorrowing heart and delight me. (Jeremiah 15:16)

5. It helps me _____ to unbelievers.

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. (1 Peter 3:15)

MEDITATING ON GOD'S WORD

"(Those) who are always meditating on His Laws ... are like trees along a river bank bearing fruit ... they never wither and whatever they do prospers." (Psalm 1:2-3)

Meditation is simply _____ about a Bible verse in order to discover how I can apply its truth to my own life.

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|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Picture it! | 4. Personalize it! |
| 2. Pronounce it! | 5. Pray it! |
| 3. Paraphrase it! | 6. Probe it! |

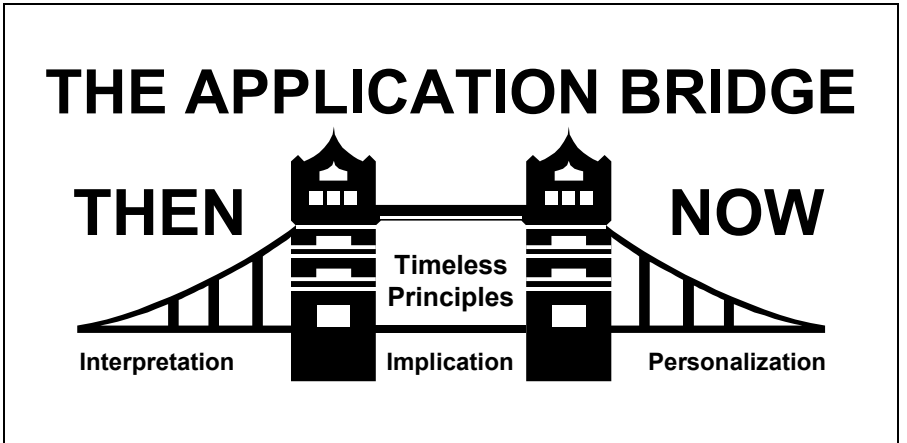
_____ is simply negative meditation. If you know how to do that, you already have great meditation skills!

APPLYING GOD'S WORD

"Do not fool yourselves by just listening to the Word. Instead, put it into practice." (James 1:22)

"... Whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 5:19)

"Now that you know these things - do them! That is the path of blessing!" (John 13:17)



QUESTIONS TO ASK:

1. What did this mean to the original hearers?

2. What is the underlying timeless principle?

3. Where or how could I apply that principle?
