

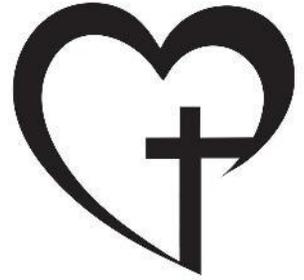
How to Spend Time with God

Why do we spend time with God? To know him.

Matthew 22:37 – “Love _____ with all your heart.”

Daniel 11:32 – “People who _____ God will be strong.”

We spend time with the people we love, and we get to know them better.



How do we know God? By reading the Bible.

1 Peter 2:2 – “Want to read the Bible like a baby wants _____.”

Joshua 1:8 – “Think about what God says _____ and _____.”

Why does a baby need milk? For their bodies to grow.

Why do we need God’s word? For our heart to grow.

We spend time with God to get to know him and love him.

Knowing God helps us grow to be strong and ready.



How do we understand what we read? We take time to think (meditate).

Picture it. Imagine it in your mind.

Pronounce it. Say the verse aloud. Think about what each word means.

Paraphrase it. Say or write the verse in your own way.

Pray it. Talk to God about the words you have read.

Probe it. What are the words saying to me? Is there something I need to do?

God loves us first. We show God we love him back by doing what he tells us to do.

Reading and thinking (_____) about God’s word from the Bible day and night (all the time) helps us know God.



How do we talk to God? By praying.

Mathew 6:9-13 – Jesus taught us how to _____.

The word **ACTS** helps us remember.

Adoration – We start with telling God why we love him.

Confession – We tell God if we did anything wrong, and ask for him to forgive us.

Thanksgiving – We thank God for the good things he has given us.

Supplication – We ask God for what we need.

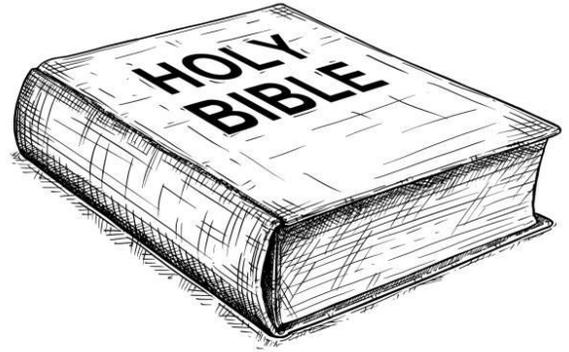
Scripture Memory

Why do we memorize scripture?

Allows the Holy Spirit to move in us.

God can _____ us of his word when we need it.

John 14:26



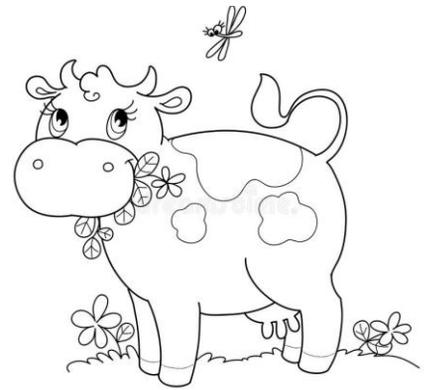
Helps us _____ scripture better.

The more scripture you memorize, the better you understand what you read.

Luke 4:1-11

Helps us fight _____ .

Jesus knew scripture and was able to resist Temptation and fight the lies of Satan. Luke 4:4, 8, 12



Helps keep us from _____ .

Psalms 119:11, Psalm 37:31, Psalm 40:8

Memorization is a form of _____ .

Meditation is thinking about something over, and over again.

We “chew” on it, like a cow chews its cud. Works on us “day and night.”

Helps us know, understand, and apply (do it). Joshua 1:8

How do we memorize scripture?

- Memorize the meaning of the verse.
- Memorize short parts of the verse.
- Emphasize different words.
- Say the verse out loud.
- Use memory cards.
- Repeat the verse over, and over, and over
- Write the verse.
- Think about it in your head as you go to sleep.



Challenge:

Memorize a verse. Review verses you already know.

Go through the day/week saying the verse to yourself and to others. Look for ways to apply it.

Keys to Answered Prayer

We live in an arena of spiritual _____ . (Ephesians 6:12)

6 Conditions for Answered Prayer:

- 1. Personal _____ . (John 15:7)**
- 2. Request _____ . (James 4:2)**
- 3. Ask in _____ . (Mark 11:22-24)**
 - a. Pray according to what you know the will of God is, not with selfish motives. (James 4:3, John 14:13)
 - b. Faith-sized requests (I John 5:14-15).
 - c. Rely on God, not self-contrived faith (James 1:6-7).
 - d. Pray in Jesus' name (John 14:13-14, 15:16, 16:24).
- 4. Yield yourself to the Lord's _____ . (Proverbs 15:8, I Peter 3:12)**
 - a. How does God want YOU to change in a situation?
 - b. Is there something that you can do to carry out your request?
 - c. Be obedient to the Lord's commands!
- 5. Examine your own _____ .**
 - a. Selfish motives (James 4:3).
 - b. Bad relationships (I Peter 3:7).
 - c. A forgiving spirit (hold no grudges) (Matthew 5:23-24).
 - d. Cleansed life (Psalms 66:18, Micah 3:4, I John 1:9).
- 6. Remain constant and _____ . (Philippians 4:6-7)**

"God may not answer when we want, but He'll never be late!"

I can have confidence in my prayers _____ . (Hebrews 10:19)

God will do things He would not otherwise do, when the weakest of all Christians prays!

How to Live by Faith (1 of 4)

Why is Faith so important?

- Hebrews 11:6 Without faith it is impossible to _____ God.
- Habakkuk 2:4 The just shall _____ by faith.
- John 3:18 Unbelief is the sin that sends people to _____.
- Hebrews 3:19 Unbelief is the sin that keeps Christians from _____.
- Matthew 13:58 Lack of faith _____ on God's miraculous work (Mark 6:5-6).
- Matthew 9:29 God is _____ in your life according to your faith.
- Colossians 2:6-7 The entire Christian life is _____ on faith.

What is Faith? Hebrews 11:1 ***“Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”***

- Ephesians 1:18 Faith is seeing things through our _____ eyes.
- John 14:19 Jesus also is talking about seeing with _____ eyes.
- 2 Corinthians 5:7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.

Examples of seeing with our spiritual eyes:

Have read a verse over and over again, then suddenly it just popped open to you, and you saw a new meaning to it? What happened? God opened your spiritual eyes!

The Bible gives us many accounts of where God opened people's spiritual eyes.

- Numbers 22:31 Balaam couldn't figure out what was holding back progress until God opened his eyes.
- Genesis 21:19 God opened Hagar's eyes, and she saw a well of water in the middle of the desert.
- Luke 24:31 These two disciples didn't recognize Jesus until God opened their eyes.
- 2 Kings 6:15-17 Look what Elisha prayed for his servant.

Faith is seeing through spiritual eyes what is not evident in the _____ world.

“Can you see God? You haven't seen him? I've never seen the wind. I see the effects of the wind, but I've never seen the wind. There's a mystery to it.”

Billy Graham

What is one way God opens our spiritual eyes? Jesus promises the Holy Spirit.

- John 14:16-17 The Holy Spirit lives in us and leads into all _____.

Answers: please, live, hell, victory, misses out, working, based, spiritual, spiritual, physical, truth

How to Live by Faith (2 of 4)

Faith is not believing God can do something (God can do it whether you believe it or not), nor is faith believing God will do it (that is hope), but faith is believing HE HAS ALREADY DONE IT!

The Divine Principle of Faith

- Mark 11:24 The Bible clearly teaches that in order to receive something from God you must _____ that you have it and then you'll receive it. You must believe in advance. You believe, then you receive. This is what you did when you were saved, and this is the same way you live the Christian life (Colossians. 2:6).
- John 11:41 This was the very principle that Jesus used when He performed miracles. Jesus didn't beg God to raise Lazarus, neither did He ask Him. Instead, He thanked God in advance. The secret is not in continual asking, but asking with the right _____ (James 4:3). Then God promises to do it because of your faith.
- Isaiah 65:24 God is not constrained by time in the same way we are. God knows our needs before we put them into words. God tells us that he can even answer _____ we ask!

Faith and Timing - Answers to our prayers may be delayed or inhibited for various reasons. We are called to persist.

- Daniel 10:12-14 - Answers may be delayed by spiritual warfare.
- Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who _____, to those who are the called according to His _____.
- James 5:16 Confess and repent of sin in hour life and claim the righteousness and forgiveness that comes from the blood of Jesus. The prayer of a _____ man is powerful and effective.
- 1 Peter 3:7 Focus on right relationships so that your prayers may not be _____.
- John 9:1-3 The blind man and his loved ones probably prayed adamantly and with faith that he would be healed for many years, but the timing of his healing was for God's _____ and to magnify Jesus.
- Matt 6:33 Get your _____ straight. Seek first the kingdom... .
- Luke 18:1-8 The widow _____ until she got an answer.

The answer to prayer may be YES, NO, or WAIT. Sometimes God works on the 40-year timeline, or even longer!

priorities, persisted

Answers: believe, motives, before, love God, purpose, righteous, hindered, glory,

How to Live by Faith (3 of 4)

Practical Application

- **Fruit of the Spirit (Ephesians 2:10):** Don't beg God for the Fruit of the Spirit: Realize that the fruit is just a perfect picture of Jesus. Jesus is inside of you. Everything you need is in Jesus. Instead of asking for more love, joy, peace, etc., ask God to "open your eyes" to see what you already possess. When you thank God (in faith) for the fruit, you make yourself available for God to manifest them in your life!
- **Needs (Matthew 6:8):** God has things He wants to bless you with, so He puts a need in your life so you will ask Him for it and then He gives it. This is the way God works. The next time you have a need, realize that just means that God has something He wants to give you. The Bible says God knows what you need before you ask. Why? Because He put the need there, so you'd ask! Next time you have a need thank God for the provision and start acting as if you already have it. This is faith in action.
- **Salvation for the Lost (1 Timothy 2:3-4):** When praying for lost people, don't beg God to save them. He wants them saved more than you do! Faith is believing a thing is so, even when it isn't so, that it might be so.
- **Intercession (1 Timothy 2:1):** God calls us to thank God for people in prayer as we intercede for them. As you ask God to help them on their behalf (intercede), thank God for what He is doing in their life, already. "Lord, I want to thank you for what you are doing in Joe's life—how you are using him and maturing him, etc."—having faith and confidence that He is working for their good.
- **Daily problems (Numbers 13 and 14):** The Israelites had some concerns about entering the Promised Land, so they sent in 12 spies. Ten of the spies returned and said, "They're giants! We'll never be able to overtake them." They saw with their physical eyes. The other two spies saw with their spiritual eyes and they said, "They (the giants) are like bread. We can eat them up!" Now the only difference between the two reports was that they saw from different perspectives. When you start seeing your "Giants" (problems) from God's point of view, they will seem as bread, too. What do you do with bread? You thank God for it, eat it, and it strengthens you. We ought to take this same attitude toward our problems.

But remember, the purpose of our faith is not "self help", it is for the advancement of God's agenda.

How to Live by Faith (4 of 4)

Hall of Faith (Hebrews 11)

Recall how God used the attitudes and obedience of Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Rahab, Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets... and worked through them, even in their human weakness and imperfection.

In your prayer life:

Do you know what God is doing in your life today? He's doing exactly what you are _____ Him to do!

Have you been praying for God to do something? When are you going to start _____ that He's already done it? If you wait until after He's done it—that's not faith! Believe Him for it right now!

Nothing is _____ with faith. "All things are possible to him that believes."
(Mark 9:23)

Specific things to pray for:

- Thank God for the fruit of the Spirit and ask for your eyes to be opened.
- Thank God for your needs, realizing that God has something to give you.
- Intercede for two lost people and believe that God is working in their lives that they may know Christ.
- Thank God for your problems. See them as He sees them.
- Thank God for what He is doing in the lives of three other believers in your life.

Trials and Temptations

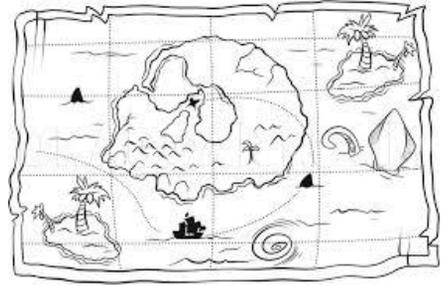
God has a _____ for my life.

“Steps are established...” Psalm 37:23

“I know the plans I have for you...” Jeremiah 29:11

“Appointed for me...” Job 23:14

“Conformed to his Son...” Romans 8:28-29



God’s #1 _____ in my life is to make me like Jesus.

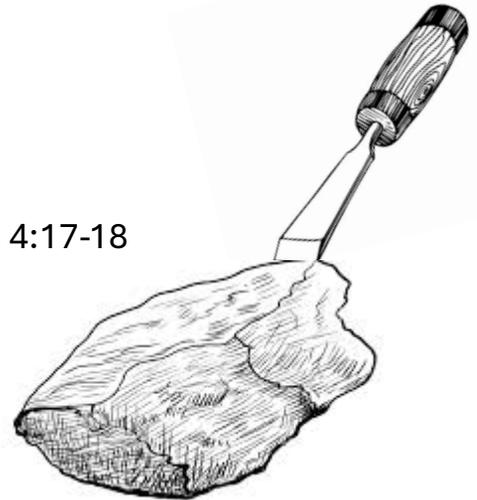
Through the _____ (aka, God’s Word).

- Builds Christians up. Acts 20:32
- His Word is Truth. John 17:17
- Scripture changes us. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Through _____

- “All things...” Romans 8:28-29
- Suffering... Hebrews 5:8, 2:10
- God is building character... 2 Corinthians 4:17-18

_____ what the Bible says and _____ on it!



Four “Truths”:

God _____ everything you are going through.

God _____.

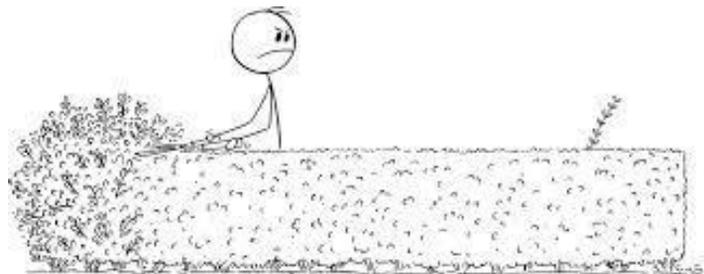
God can _____ a bad situation.

God _____ change the situation until you learn the right _____.

Don’t ask _____, ask _____.

How do I respond?

Give _____ in the situation.



Principle: When we learn to praise God in bad situations, God will change the _____ or He will change _____.

Build a Hedge of Praise in the situation:

- If it is designed by Satan to draw you away from God, it will be removed.
- If it is designed by God to draw you close to God and make you more like Jesus, it doesn’t need to be removed, and you are going to grow.
- If it is the consequence of your sin, God will call you to repent (change).

Answers: plan, purpose, Bible, trials, know, act, knows, cares, change, will not, attitude, why, what, thanks, situation, you

The Principle of Multiplication (1 of 2)

2 Timothy 2:2 “*The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.*”

Matthew 28:19 “*Go, therefore, and make disciples ...*”

Meaning of Disciple

- A _____
- The disciple has a _____
- _____ to the teacher, not just the teaching
- _____ to the teacher
- _____ the life of the teacher

Passing on a Lifestyle.

-Emphasis of teachings is on _____, rather than knowledge.

-Jesus taught application, not just truth.

- Give God ownership of all your possessions.
- Be kind.
- Forgive.
- Pray.

The Apostle Paul

Ephesians 5:1 – “Christ”

1 Corinthians 4:16

1 Corinthians 11:1

Philippians 3:17

2 Thessalonians 3:9

2 Timothy 2:2

Goal: To help a believer grow faster, stronger, and deeper than if they were on their own.

The Principle of Multiplication (2 of 2)

Qualifications for a Paul

- Read it through.
- Pray it in.
- Live it out.
- Pass it on.

Jesus and Paul sought for Quality followers, not quantity. (Luke 14:25-35)

Qualifications for a Timothy

- Faithful
- Available
- Industrious
- Teachable
- Heart for God

**Jesus spent the whole night in prayer before selecting His disciples.
(Luke 6:12-13)**

The Process of Multiplication

How many people could you lead to the Lord in 1 year, 10 years, or 20 years?
-5,000 in a lifetime? SUCCESS!

Year	1	2
	2	4
	3	8
	4	16
	5	32
	6	64
	7	128
	8	256
	9	512
	10	1024
	20	1,048,576
	25	33,554,432
	30	1,073,741,700 (Not just Christians, but DISCIPLES!)

IT IS NOT ABOUT YOU!

Learning to Hear God's Voice (7 Tests)

"Don't always believe everything you hear just because someone says it is a message from God: test it first to see if it really is." | John 4:1

1. Does It Agree with the Bible?

"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away." Luke 21:33

"If an angel comes from heaven and preaches any other message, let him be forever cursed."

Galatians 1:8

The more you _____ in the Bible, the easier it is for God to talk to you.

2. Does it Make Me More Like Christ?

"We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ." 2 Corinthians 10:5

Jesus is the ultimate _____ by which we evaluate every idea and impression.

"If you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. Such 'wisdom' does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice. But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere." James 3:14-17

3. Does My Church Family Confirm It?

"His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known." Ephesians 3:10

"With his mouth the godless man destroys his neighbor, but through knowledge the righteous will be delivered." Proverbs 11:9

Be willing to receive the _____ of other believers.

4. Is It Consistent with How God Shaped Me?

"We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Eph. 2:10

"God has graciously given each of us the ability to do certain things well." Romans 12:6

God's voice will never _____ what He has gifted you to be.

5. Does It Concern My Responsibility?

"Jesus said to him, 'If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you?

You follow Me!'" John 21:22

"We shall all be judged one day, not by each other's standards or even by our own, but by the judgement of God. . . Let us therefore stop passing judgement on one another." Romans 14:10,13

When God speaks, it is going to be _____ to you and your circumstance.

6. Is It Convicting, rather than Condemning?

"If we confess our sins to Him, He can be depended on to forgive us and to cleanse us from every wrong." I John 1:9

"There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." Romans 8:1

Conviction	Condemnation
The sin	The person
The action	The character
What I do	Who I am

God never attacks my _____.

7. Do I Sense God's Peace About It?

"God is not the author of confusion." I Corinthians 14:33

"Let the peace of God rule in your hearts." Colossians 3:15

Satan drives us _____.

The Holy Spirit draws us _____.

Shaped for Significance

“You (God) created every part of me. You put me together in my mother’s womb.” Psalm 139:13

“Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! It is amazing to think about. Your workmanship is marvelous.” Psalm 139:14

“Your hands formed and shaped me.” Job 10:8

What God says about me:

I am _____

I am _____

I was _____ for a purpose!

The more you _____ in the Bible, the easier it is for God to talk to you.

The Five Parts of My God-Given S.H.A.P.E.

S _____

“...each man has his own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that”. I Corinthians 7:7

Every Christian is called to serve . . . and your gift indicates how you are to serve God.

“There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works in all of them.” 1 Corinthians 12:4-6

H _____

“God has put it into their hearts to accomplish his purpose...” Rev. 17:17

“For it is God who works in you, inspiring both the will and the deed, for his own chosen purpose!” Philippians 2:13

A _____

There are different abilities to perform service ...” I Corinthians 12:6

“I (God) have given him skill, ability, and knowledge in all kinds of crafts.” Exodus 31:3

“...our competence comes from God.” 2 Corinthians 3:5

P _____

“Your life is shaped by your thoughts.” Proverbs 4:23

E _____

“And we know that all that happens to us is working for our good if we love God and are fitting into his plans.” Romans 8:28

My shape is: inter-related . . . fixed . . . irrepressible.

My shape impacts _____ area of my life!

“By the grace of God I am what I am.” I Corinthians 15:10

Shaped for Significance

(Expanded notes)

You don't have to travel too far around the world to discover that God loves variety. He has made all shapes, sizes, colors, intensities!

- incredible variety
- over 300,000 species of beetles
- 18 million unique snowflakes in one cubic foot of snow

God loves variety in people too!!!

-have you waited for an airplane at Ontario or LAX and watched the parade of peculiar people?

God loves variety! God made each of those people.

"You (God) created every part of me. You put me together in my mother's womb." Psalm 139:13

"Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! It is amazing to think about. Your workmanship is marvelous." Psalm 139:14

"Your hands formed and shaped me." Job 10:8

What God says about me: (Three foundational truths)

I am UNIQUE

- nobody like you
- no carbon copies/the mold was broken
- unique prints: finger, foot, voice

Why? So you will know how special you are . . . that you matter to God!!

I am WONDERFULLY COMPLEX

Many times we are a mystery to ourselves. "Why in the world did I do that?", say that?", or feel like this?"

Have you ever been in a group and felt something entirely different? (What's wrong with me?)

-NOTHING! You are just unique.

We may not know why we think, feel, and do things, . . . But God knows!

I was SHAPED for a purpose!

God created everything in the world for a purpose.

You were designed by GOD.

You were God's idea . . . not a mistake.

-you were planned before birth.

Purposefully, personally, and orderly planned.

Your uniqueness is what God wants you to offer to the world.

The Five Parts of My God-Given S.H.A.P.E.

Your SHAPE affects every area of your life: relationships, career, finances, enjoyment, hobbies, and recreation.

The Bible says that you are a combination of 5 different factors.

S: Spiritual Gifts

"...each man has his own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that"

1 Corinthians 7:7

When you are born physically, you are given physical abilities: taste, touch, sight, feel, hearing.

When born spiritually, God gives you some spiritual abilities (gifts) to serve Him.

1. Every believer has at least one spiritual gift.
2. Given at the moment of salvation
 - a. When you become a Christian, God give you a new purpose
 - b. God gives you the ability to accomplish it.
3. God gives spiritual gifts sovereignly (God chooses)
4. Given by grace, not earned
5. 20 examples in the Bible

Whenever you do something well, and you enjoy it, you are demonstrating giftedness!

Our spiritual gifts show God's plan for our lives:

What should be my ministry

How should I spend my time

Where should I focus my life

Every Christian is called to serve . . . and your spiritual gift tell how you are to serve God.

Teaching – be a teacher

Organizing – be an organizer

Music – be in music

"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works in all of them." 1 Corinthians 12:4-6

Every gift is unique!! You are not to copy other people's spiritual gift. (Temptation of new believers)

This explains why Christians who believe the same thing, see things differently.

-we tend to emphasize what we are gifted in.

-If you are gifted in evangelism, all you can think about is reaching people for Christ!

-The other person says, "NO, we need to help the Christians we've got . . . grow!"

This is why church groups break up . . .we focus on or emphasize a certain gift:

Tongues, Evangelism, Teaching, Mercy (social ministries)

THEY ARE ALL IMPORTANT!

Your gifts show God's plan for YOUR life!

How to discover your spiritual gifts:

Examine and Experiment

Examine

What have I enjoyed?

Where have people been impacted?

What has God blessed?

Where have I seen results?

What have others seen in you?

Experiment

If you have never been involved in ministry, you will never know your gifts. It's not a spectator thing.

If you do not have any type of service to look back on (and examine), you will have to depend on the 2nd method: experimenting.

Try some, find your niche.

-what is enjoyable for you? What do you do well?

H: Heart

"God has put it into their hearts to accomplish his purpose..." Rev. 17:17

"For it is God who works in you, inspiring both the will and the deed, for his own chosen purpose!" Philippians 2:13

It is what drives you . . . motivates you.

Would you agree that there are things you are deeply interested and other things you couldn't care less about?

-revealing your heart.

What do I really love to do? What do I dream about?

When I am on the beach in Maui relaxing, what does my mind automatically turn to?

These are your inborn interests!! They are not by accident.

A: Ability

There are different abilities to perform service ...” I Corinthians 12:6

“I (God) have given him skill, ability, and knowledge in all kinds of crafts.” Exodus 31:3

“...our competence comes from God.” 2 Corinthians 3:5

Talents and skills.

We all have abilities (although we may not be aware of them).

Researchers have shown that the average person has between 500-700 different kinds of abilities.

God says that this is part of the way He has shaped us.

Computers, Mechanical, Math, Language, Writing, Speaking, Gardening, Creativity, Music, Engineering, Entertaining, Cooking, Graphic Arts, Sports
These are not by accident!!!

P: Personality

“Your life is shaped by your thoughts.” Proverbs 4:23

Personality: refers to three things.

1. The way you act
2. The way you feel
3. The way you think

The root of these is the way you THINK.

-it determines how you feel.

-which determines the way you act.

The Bible says that the root of your personality is your thought life. Read Proverbs 4:23

We all know that personality is complex.

-researchers say 18,000 different personality traits

-put these in combinations . . .infinite

Years ago, there used to be a big debate in the field of psychology: Is personality something that you are born with, or something that is acquired through environment (Nature or Nurture?). Not a question anymore. Study after study has shown that the moment a child is born, they already have a set pattern of some personality characteristics . . .long before any environment affects them from the outside world.

Any parent of more than 2 children knows this!

Some babies come into the world cooing, complacent, smiling. Other babies come into the world chomping on a cigar, spitting nails.

God created you with personality traits: not by accident!

Some of us are high strung. Others, wimps! Quick tempers, slow burns. Some love to be around people, others keep to themselves.

All these quirks must be under control of the Holy Spirit. Not abused.

E: Experience

“And we know that all that happens to us is working for our good if we love God and are fitting into his plans.” Romans 8:28

You have been shaped by many experiences: some by your choice, some were out of your control.

1. Family/Relational experiences. “You are just like your mom”
2. Educational experiences: schools, books, seminars and trainings
3. Spiritual experiences: Meaningful times w/God, times of commitment, times of crisis
4. Vocational experiences: career and job
5. Painful experiences: Story of Joseph
 - a. Betrayed by brothers
 - b. Sold into slavery
 - c. Taken to a foreign country
 - d. Sold to a master
 - e. Falsely accused of rape
 - f. Put into prison

Everything went wrong during the first half of his life.

At the end of his life, *“You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good.”* Genesis 50:20

God does not want to waste any experience in your life.

-even the painful ones, even when you were victimized (molested, rape, abused, divorced, child died)

My shape impacts EVERY area of my life!

“By the grace of God I am what I am.” I Corinthians 15:10

How to Share My Faith

I can witness by my _____.

I can witness by my _____.

I can witness by _____.

Language: My manner of speech will indicate the change Christ has made in my life.

- Gossip
- Subtle cut downs
- Prideful remarks
- Lying
- Profanity
- Dirty jokes

Lifestyle (2 Corinthians 5:17)

- I am _____ the product of Jesus Christ.
- If there has not been a change, I must re-examine my _____.

Leading someone to Christ

- The lousy suit salesman.
- It is not the _____ you use, but the _____ you are presenting.
- Tools
- Tracts

Testimony: Two minutes of authoritative proof!

- Before – Be careful not to glorify past sin.
- Realize – Guard against too many details.
- Became – Center on prayer and commitment.
- After – Be truthful.

Developing Boldness

How bold should I be? I should be as bold with my witness as _____ is with his.
Depend on God to open _____ and to _____ people.

Why Should I Witness?

Command of Christ (Matthew 28:18-20)

Concern for Others

Compassion for Christ (John 21:15-17)

If you _____ Jesus, you will be about His _____!

The Roman Road

Romans 3:23 “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

Romans 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Romans 5:8 “But God demonstrates His love toward us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (LSD)

Romans 10:9 “That if you confess with your mouth ‘Jesus as Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” (CBS)

Scripture Memory: It allows us to be armed in every situation.

Master these key verses while: curling hair, shaving, lunch or work break, driving, etc.

Marking your Bible

Inside the front cover of your Bible, write “Turn to Romans 3:23”

At bottom of Romans 3:23 page, write “Turn to Romans 6:23”

At bottom of Romans 6:23 page, write “Turn to Romans 5:8”

At bottom of Romans 5:8 page, write “Turn to Romans 10:9”

Drawing in the Net (Romans 10:9)

Read Romans 10:9

What are the last four words of the verse? (“You will be saved.”)

-Does it say, “You might be saved? You hope to be saved? You have to wonder about being saved?”.

You will be saved if:

Believe God raised Jesus from the dead.

Confess Jesus as Lord (Make Jesus boss).

Is there any good reason why you could not make Jesus the boss of your life, right now?

Would you like to make Jesus the boss of your life, right now?

Lead them to pray!

Tell God that you know you have done some things wrong.

If you believe that Jesus died and rose from the dead, tell that to God.

If you are willing to make Jesus the boss of your life, tell Him that.

Thank God for saving you.

Jesus, I know that I have done things wrong and I need your forgiveness. I believe that You died for my sins. I choose to make you the one in charge of my life. I want to trust and follow you. Thank you for saving me. Amen.

How to Handle Money and Possessions

“The wise man saves for the future, but the foolish man spends whatever he gets.” Proverbs 21:20

“Human desires are like the world of the dead—there is always room for more.” Proverbs 27:20

Jesus spoke more about money than any other topic. In fact, the word for “money” is used in the Bible more often than the word “love.”

WHY DO I ALWAYS WANT MORE?

1. Having more things leads to being discontent.

“He who loves money shall never have enough. The foolish think that wealth brings happiness! The more you have, the more you spend” Ecclesiastes 5:10-11

“It is better to be satisfied with what you have than to be always wanting something else.” Ecclesiastes 6:9

2. Having more things leads to wanting more things.

“Be on your guard against greed in any shape or form. For a man’s real life in no way depends on the number of his possessions.” Luke 12:15

3. Dependence upon wealth instead of God leads us to trouble.

“Those who depend on their wealth will fall like the leaves of autumn.” Proverbs 11:28

“The rich man thinks of his wealth as an impregnable defense, a high wall of safety. What a dreamer!” Proverbs 18:11

“When we long to be rich we are a prey to temptation. We get trapped into all sorts of foolish and dangerous ambitions which eventually plunge us into ruin.” I Timothy 6:9

HOW TO ENJOY LIFE MORE ON LESS

1. Find my happiness in giving.

“Jesus said, “There’s more happiness in giving than in receiving.”” Acts 20:35

“Happy are those whose greatest desire is to do what God requires; God will satisfy them fully.” Matthew 5:6

2. Find my self-worth in God.

God says, "You are precious in my sight!" Isaiah 43:4

"Your heavenly Father feeds the birds... Are you not more valuable than they?" Matthew 6:26

"The proof of God's amazing love is this: while we were sinners Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

3. Find my security in the Lord.

"Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, 'I will never leave you nor abandon you.'" Hebrews 13:5

"Don't store up for yourselves treasure on earth, where moths and rust destroy and thieves break in and steal. But store up treasures in Heaven...For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:19-21

"And God shall supply all your needs." Philippians 4:19

EARNING

1. Hard work and investment promises prosperity; Laziness reaps poverty

2. Avoid schemes which entice you with "Get rich quick" possibilities.

3. Be honest to compare all expenses and liabilities to the true benefits.

4. God is the source of all you have. Trust Him to supply all your needs.

GIVING

1. Your willingness to give of your possessions indicates your true devotion to God.

Mark 10:17-27; Luke 12:15-21; Matthew 6:19-24; Luke 19:8-9

2. You have a need to give. Only by giving do you receive.

Luke 6:35, 38; 2 Corinthians 9:6-13; Malachi 3:8-12; Proverbs 11:24-25

3. The church is a community of people who give to the needs of each other.

Acts 2:44, 4:32-37; Acts 11:29-30; 2 Corinthians 8:1-15; James 2:14-17; I Timothy 6:17-19

4. A tithe (10 %) of all income should be given to the Lord as a minimum of our giving.

Malachi 3:10; Matthew 23:23; Genesis 14:20; Proverbs 3:9-10

Topical Bible Study

Insights Concerning Bible Study

- The key to Bible study is simply knowing how to ask the right questions.
- Take time to think through, brainstorm with others, learn by doing
- You haven't really studied until you have put it into writing.
- No passage can ever be exhausted.
- Do not seek for the super-unknown secrets. Just study what the text says.
- Schedule your Bible study time.

How to complete a topical Bible study

- Select a topic.
- Ask three questions concerning it.
- Look up verses concerning the topic using a concordance or topical Bible.
 - Strong's Exhaustive Concordance
 - Nave's Topical Bible
 - Biblegateway.com
- Using the verses, answer the questions.
- Write insights gained from the answers.
- Write conclusions for the three questions

Topical Bible Study

Bible Study Topic: Prayer

Three Questions:

1. What will hinder God from answering prayer?
2. Are there any requirement that God demands from the person praying?
3. What conditions are set by God in order to grant a prayer request?

Verses on Prayer

2 Chronicles 7:13ff

Psalms 37:4-5

Proverbs 15:8

Matthew 6:5-13

Matthew 7:7-8

Matthew 18:19-20

Matthew 21:22

Mark 9:28-29

Mark 11:24

Luke 11:1-13

John 9:31

John 14:13-14

John 15:7

Romans 8:26

Ephesians 3:11-12

Ephesians 6:18-19

Philippians 4:6

I Thessalonians 5:17

Hebrews 4:16

James 5:16

Disciple Making

Mission: “Go therefore and make _____...” **Matthew 28:16-20**

Target: _____ disciples. **Luke 6:40**

Christlike _____ ; **Christlike** _____.

The church’s mission is to make disciples who look like Jesus in their *conduct* and their *character*. **Luke 6:37-42**

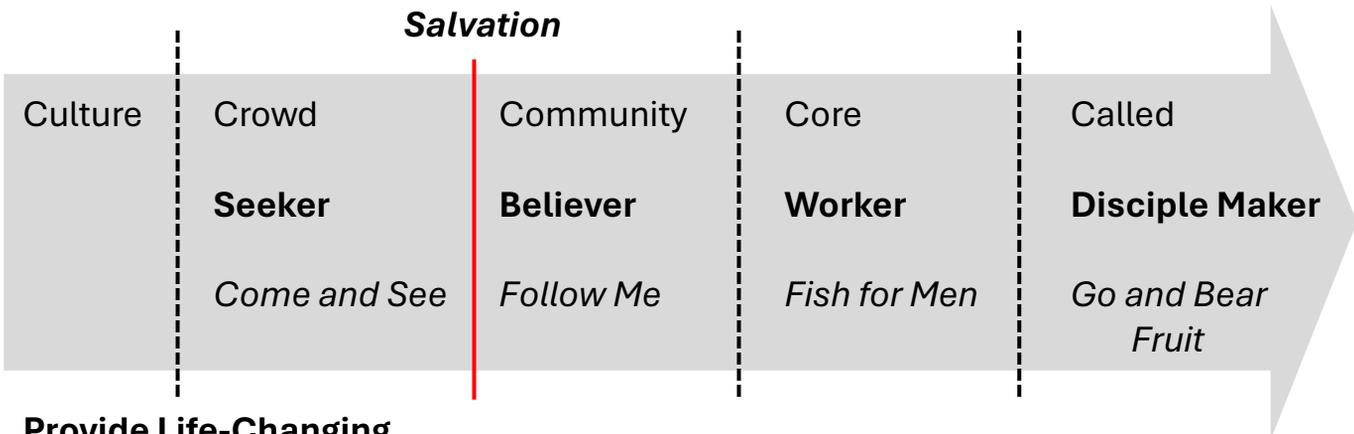
Conduct (7) Acts 2:42-47

“Belonged” **Members**
“Grew” **Maturing**
“Served” **Ministers**
“Gave” **Managers**
“Worshipped” **Magnifiers**
“Shared” **Messengers**
“Reproduced” **Multipliers**

Character (9) Galatians 5:22-23

Love
Joy
Peace
Patience
Kindness
Goodness
Faithfulness
Gentleness
Self-Control

Salvation



Provide Life-Changing _____...

Content - ...teaching Christlike Conduct, Christlike Character,

Contact - ...doing life together in small-group Community,

Context - ...learning and applying God’s word in active Obedience (hear, see, do),

Correction - ...encouraging and holding each other Accountable.

Developing _____ **with the right Heart, Knowledge, and Understanding to obtain the right Results**



Challenge	Come and See <i>John 1:39</i>	Follow Me <i>John 1:43</i>	Follow Me... Fish for People <i>Matt 4:19</i>	Go and Bear Fruit <i>John 15:16</i>
Description	Dead/Lost	Child	Young Man	Father (parent)
Biblical Name	Seeker	Believer	Worker	Disciple-Maker
Biblical Concept	Win	Build	Equip	Multiply
Basic Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gospel • Answers • Christian friends 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identity • Explanation • Parenting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry • Opportunities • Peers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wisdom • Other models • Mentors
Skills Needed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk • Talk (w/God & others) • Feed themselves • Clean themselves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Run • Tell God's story • Feed others • Holy Spirit power 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endure • Defend truth • Teach Word right • Holy lifestyle
Lasting Fruit	No fruit	Fruit	More fruit	Much fruit
Other Needs	CPR	Milk	Meat	Meat
Further Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confused • Unbelieving 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dependent • Immature 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent • Maturing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dependable • Mature
Language	Meistic	I oriented	We oriented	Others oriented
End Product	*Conversion	*Serving others	*Reproduction	*Multiplication

Bible Story Review Questions for Young Children

Read the Bible Story together with your child.

Use all or some of the questions below to explore the story with your child.

Understanding the Story

- 1) What part of the story stood out to you the most?
- 2) Was there anything in the story that confused you or made you curious?
- 3) Why do you think this story was important enough for God to want someone to write it down?

Exploring Emotions & Perspective

- 1) How do you think the characters felt during the story?
- 2) Which character do you relate to the most, and why?
- 3) If you were in this story, what would you have done differently?

Moral & Meaning

- 1) What do you think God is trying to teach us from this story?
- 2) Is there a rule or lesson in the story that feels hard to follow?
- 3) What does this story show about how we should or should not act?

Connecting to Real Life

- 1) Can you think of a time when you faced something similar?
- 2) How could you use this story to help you make a decision in real life?
- 3) Who in your life reminds you of someone in the story?

Critical Thinking & Imagination

- 1) What do you think happened right after the story ended?
- 2) What would this story look like if it happened today?
- 3) Is there anything in the story you disagree with or want to question?

Understanding God

- 1) What does this story tell us about God (The Father, Jesus, or the Holy Spirit)?
- 2) Old Testament: Do you see a way how this story points us to Jesus?
- 3) New Testament: What does this story tell us about Jesus?