

What Is the Hidden Word?

Lesson 1

When you hear "Bible Memorization," what is the first thing that comes to your mind?

What Would Jesus Say?

"Aw, don't waste your time!" or "Just do it! You'll be glad you did!"

What Is the Hidden Word?

1. The Hidden Word Is the SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE of Bible Memorization.

- Spiritual disciplines are biblical **HABITS** practiced by healthy Christians.

The Prerequisites of Spiritual Disciplines

| A Spiritual Discipline Is... | |
|---|-------------------------|
| a consistent behavior | HABIT -Forming |
| taught by Scripture | BIBLE -Based |
| and modeled by Christ | CHRIST -Like |
| which is vital to spiritual growth – | LIFE -Supporting |
| <i>establishing maturity, effective ministry, enduring multiplication –</i> | PURPOSE -Driven |
| and results in eternal satisfaction! | GOD -Blessed |

- Spiritual disciplines **FEED** the life that is already in every believer.

The Purpose of Spiritual Disciplines

Spiritual disciplines are biblical, Christ-like habits that are essential for *nurturing spiritual life, bearing spiritual fruit, and completing our joy* for the glory of God.

John 15:4-5, 7, 16; 2 Peter 1:5-9; 10-11

- Spiritual disciplines are "*habits of the **HEART** for holiness.*"

The Practice of Spiritual Disciplines

A commanded activity modeled by Christ and His disciples that is built into our character and lifestyle to impact our regenerated hearts.

Two Kinds of Spiritual Disciplines

Denying **SELF**

*Putting Off
 Exhale
 Giving Up*

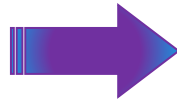
◀ Clothing ▶
 ▶ Breathing ▶
 ▶ Exercising ▶

Drawing **NEAR**

*Putting On
 Inhale
 Building Up*

Abstinence

1. Solitude
2. Silence
3. Fasting
4. Simplicity
5. Chastity
6. Secrecy
7. Sacrifice



Engagement

1. Scripture Intake
2. Prayer
3. Worship (Personal & Congregational)
4. Celebration
5. Serving
6. Fellowship
7. Submission

2. How Important Are Spiritual Disciplines?

Holy Helps for a Godly Life

➤ They're the God-given **LIFE-SUPPORT** system for the believer. *Galatians 2:20; John 14:6; Galatians 3:35*

➤ They're a **MEANS** to a Christ-like end.

1. Food to **GROW** up in Christ. *1 Timothy 4:7-8*

"We might say that discipline is the disciple's 'career.' It defines the very shape of the disciple's life. Obedience, on the other hand, refers to specific action...Discipline is the wholehearted "yes" to the call of God." – Elisabeth Elliott

2. Energy to **WORK** with Christ. *Mark 1:35-39; Luke 6:12-13; Mark 6:30-32*

"Believers without spiritual disciplines are only spiritual romantics who want relationship without work."

3. Skills to **PASS** on like Christ. *Luke 11:1*

➤ They help us fulfill our life purpose: **BEING & DOING LIKE CHRIST.**

➤ They're essential to reproducing **FULLY DEVOTED** Christ followers.

"Key is mastery of the basic disciplines which make one an effective disciple and form the life-support system for the believer. We cannot make disciples unless we master (and pass on!) the basic Christian disciplines." – Bill Hull

3. What Disciplines Are the **MOST IMPORTANT?**

➤ Congregational Worship: _____

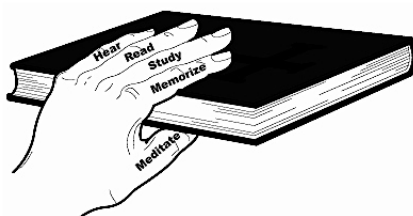
➤ Scripture Intake: _____

➤ Prayer: _____

Why Is Scripture intake and Prayer So Important?

➤ **LIFE** in Community = Word + Spirit. *Genesis 1:1-3; Matthew 3:16; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 5:18 + Colossians 3:16*

➤ **PRIORITY** of all kinds of spiritual influencers. *Acts 6:4; 1 Timothy 2:1; Luke 2:36-37; 2 Timothy 3:15-17*



Scripture Intake Takes Place Five Ways

1. Hearing – *Romans 10:17*
2. Reading – *Psalms 119:17-18*
3. Studying – *Acts 17:11; 2 Timothy 2:15*
4. Memorizing – *Psalms 119:11*
5. Meditating – *Joshua 1:8; Psalms 1:2-3; Colossians 3:16*

Prayer Flows from & Fuels All Five Ways

Get Ready to Delight in the Discipline of Bible Memorization!

It's a spiritual discipline that's worth your best effort; it fuels your spiritual life and is blessed by your heavenly Father!

Hidden Word Application • Lesson 1



- Are you satisfied with your practice of the spiritual disciplines of Scripture Intake and Prayer at this time? ***Why or why not?***
- Have you ever tried to hide God's Word in your heart on a regular basis?
Why or why not? If so, how did it go?
- What is the biggest "giant" that stands in your way of memorizing Scripture as an ongoing spiritual discipline?
- By faith in the Lord and the promises of His Word, you can be empowered by His Spirit to slay your "giant" and begin to delight in the discipline hiding His Word in your heart. ***Write our a prayer about hiding His Word in your heart this year.***
- Who could you begin to pray about asking someone to be your "Memorization Partner"?

The Hidden Word for This Week

- Read **Psalm 119:11** aloud **5 times** in the **morning** and **5 times** in the **evening** every day this week! (Use whatever translation you prefer to memorize which may or may not be the one you prefer to read the most.)

"Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You." NKJV