

DEVOTIONAL LIFE GUIDE

PRAY: Ask the Lord for help to understand His Word.

READ: Read the chapters before & after the text to gain more context and a broader understanding...then read the specific text/chapter again.

STUDY:

(1) GOD / CHRIST / HOLY SPIRIT (verse-by-verse, complete discussion)

- *What does the text literally say about Him?*
- *What do we learn/conclude from the text about Him?*
- *Where can we find the same themes/names of Him in other texts (**CR**)?*
- *How have you seen these themes about Him applied to your life (past)?*
- *How should you live, believe, or think differently about Him because of these themes (present & future)?*

(2) OBJECTIVE ELEMENTS

- *Who is talking? Who is being talked to? What was the response?*
- *What are the actions taken by or directions given to people in the text?*
- *Are there any conditional statements (because; if/then; so/that; etc.)?*
- *Are there any contrasting, strong, or unique words?*

(3) REPETITION

- *Identify repeated words/themes.*
- *What else does scripture say about those repeated words/themes in similar context (**CR**)?*

(4) TRANSFERRABLE & APPLICABLE ACTION – what does this text...

- *Teach me to UNDERSTAND/BELIEVE?*
- *Suggest I should DO?*
- *Require me to BE?*
- *Encourage me to SAY?*
- *Warn me to AVOID?*

Ask the Lord to show you tangible ways He wants to continue transforming your life. Write down and make a plan for implementing JUST ONE main point of action above (or continue growing consistently with current biblical convictions).

(5) DISCUSSION SUMMARY

What difference does this text make in my life if I am a Christian (I have forgiveness in Christ, the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, and a secured eternity with God)?

Does the overall text...

- *Inform me of TRUTH – what truth?*
- *Convict me of SIN – what sin?*
- *Inspire me to PRAISE God – what praise?*
- *Help me implement a new aspect of OBEDIENCE – what obedience?*

----- LOOKING FOR MORE -----

Remember: John 5:39

MEMORIZE Review the monthly memory passage each day.

WORSHIP Spend time worshipping the Lord in song.

INVESTIGATE It may be helpful to read some of the notes in a trusted “study bible”. A bible dictionary or sound commentary can also give more understanding and background information.

HIGHLIGHT Use colored pencils to mark themes in your bible. Keep a notebook with a section for each theme, creating a personal set of reference verses for times of reflection and prayer.

→RED = Truth, Facts

→ORANGE = Warning, Sin, Consequences

→YELLOW = God, Christ, Holy Spirit

→GREEN = Serving Others

→BLUE = Obedience

→PURPLE = Verbs, Repeated Words, etc.

JOURNAL Always be biblical in writing out your thoughts, never putting words in God’s mouth (Prov. 30:5-6).

----- CPR -----

CONFESSION – involved bringing an actual sin to light, not a weakness or “need to do better”. This is not a time for extensive dialog, but agreement with God about a specific sin (**1 John 1:5-10**).

PRAYER – (in this context) is defined by a moment or season of seeking God’s wisdom, help, & encouragement (**Matthew 6:9-13**)

REPENTANCE – means putting off the old and putting on the new (**Ephesians 4:17-32**).

What is the source of my sin?

HOPE: Where is my confidence/trust? What do I think/believe?

(Romans 5:2, 8:1-6; Philippians 1:6; 1 Peter 5:6-11; 2 Peter 1:3-4)

The Lord wants to change me from being hopeless to hopeful in Him...for today, but ultimately for the promises of eternity. I cannot derive or conjure up hope on my own. This requires asking Him to help me trust His sovereign plan for my life.

HEART: What do I desire? What motivates me?

(Matthew 15:7-20; 1 John 5:2-3)

The Lord wants my desires to be centered around living a life that pleases Him and being wholly satisfied in the person of Jesus Christ through a growing, daily relationship with Him.

HABITS: What are my ways? What are my patterns?

(Psalm 1:1-2; Proverbs 3:6-7, 5:6, 14:12; Romans 12:1-2)

The Lord wants my ways patterned after Him and His word, not the world.