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- Lessons are based on Spiritual Growth and Spiritual Life Discipleship Bible Studies at BibleStudyCD.com
- All Scripture verses in this lesson are from the **King James Version** (KJV).
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"...Let God Be Magnified."

~ Psalm 70:4 (KJV)

The Word



How long can we survive without eating?

☐ 1 Day ☐ 3 Days ☐ 10 Days ☐ 20 Days ☐ 40 Days ☐ 60 Days

If you checked "1 day," then *you never missed a meal in your life!*

- No, it's not even 10 or 20 days. We can survive 40 days without food. After that, our bodies begin to starve and death is not far off.
- Just as our physical body needs food to grow and survive, our spirit also needs to be fed.

*"...man doth not live by bread only,
but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live."*
Deuteronomy 8:3

❖ **Underline** what we need for life – in addition to food.



- ◆ Food gives strength to our physical bodies.
- ◆ Similarly, God's Word gives us power to live a victorious Christian life.

This Lesson Is About...

- 📖 The **Source** of the Word
- 📖 The **Purpose** of the Word
- 📖 The **Power** of the Word
- 📖 The **Application** of the Word

The Source of the Word

*"Knowing this first, that
no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation. For
the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man:
but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."*
2 Peter 1:20-21



- ❖ **Underline** *two* ways prophecy did **not** come.
- ❖ **Circle** who is the Source of the Word.

God guided the authors of the Bible about what to write.
They didn't come up with the ideas themselves.

The Purpose of the Word

*"And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of His disciples,
which are not written in this book:
But these are written,
that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and
that believing ye might have life through His name."*
John 20:30-31

- ❖ **Circle** why the book of John was written.
- ❖ **Underline** what happens when we "*believe that Jesus is the Christ.*"

- ◆ The disciple John wrote the **Gospel of John** so people would believe in Jesus.
- ◆ The disciple John later wrote **1 John** so people who believed in Jesus would know they had eternal life. **See 1 John 5:13.**

Believe



Fun Facts About the Bible

✦ Written by about **40 men** over a period of 1600 years (**1500 B.C. to A.D. 100**).

✦ The authors had a variety of occupations, including:

- ~ **Shepherd / King** (David)
- ~ **Prophet** (Isaiah)
- ~ **Priest** (Ezra)
- ~ **Tax collector** (Matthew)
- ~ **Doctor** (Luke)
- ~ **Fishermen** (Peter, John)
- ~ **Tent maker** (Paul)

✦ **First major book** printed in Europe on new Gutenberg printing press in 1455.

✦ **Best-selling** and most widely distributed book of all time.

✦ **Most translated book** in the world (at least one book of the Bible translated into over 2,400 languages).

❓ *How long does
1 Peter 1:24-25 say the
Word of God will last?*

"The Bible
is either absolute,
or it's obsolete."

~ Leonard Ravenhill

The **BIBLE** is...

BASIC
INSTRUCTIONS
BEFORE
LEAVING
EARTH

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*"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is **profitable** for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."*
2 Timothy 3:16-17

- ❖ **Circle** how **much** Scripture is inspired by God.
This verse teaches that all of the Bible **originates from God!**
- ❖ **Underline** the result of applying the Word to our life.
- ❖ **Frame** how **many** "good works" we will be "furnished" (equipped) for.



Write FOUR ways 2 Timothy 3:16-17 says Scripture is "profitable".

- _____ ► **instructing** us in the Truth of God
- _____ ► **convicting** us of the Truth of God
- _____ ► **restoring** us to the Truth of God
- _____ ► **teaching** us how to live the Truth of God

"For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope."

Romans 15:4

- ❖ **Underline** why the Bible was "written."
- ❖ **Circle** what "patience" and "comfort of the Scriptures" bring.



"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

Psalms 119:105



- ❖ **Underline two** descriptions of what God's Word is like.
A flashlight helps you safely find your way when it is dark. In the same way, the Bible is like a lamp or a light which helps you "see" to make wise decisions.

*"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way?
by taking heed thereto according to Thy word."*

Psalms 119:9

- ❖ **Underline** how to "cleanse" your way.

"Beware of reasoning about God's Word – obey it." ~ Oswald Chambers

The Power of the Word

*"And when the tempter [Satan] came to Him [Jesus], he said,
If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.
But He answered and said,
It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."*

Matthew 4:3-4

- ❖ **Circle** what Satan said to Jesus.
- ❖ **Underline** how Jesus responded to Satan's temptation.

Notice how Jesus quoted **Deuteronomy 8:3** – the passage at the start of this lesson. Because Jesus was already familiar with this verse, He was able to quote it when tempted.

"In regard to this **Great Book**, I have but to say, it is the **best gift God has given to man.**

All the good the Savior gave to the world was communicated through this book.

But for it we could not know right from wrong.

All things most desirable for man's welfare, here and hereafter, are to be found portrayed in it."

~ Abraham Lincoln



"I have for many years made it a practice to read through the Bible **once every year.**"

~ John Quincy Adams

? Can you think of a time when God's Word gave you direction to make a decision?

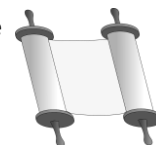
*"Were it not for **tribulation**, I should not understand the Scriptures."*

~ Martin Luther

See **Psalms 119:67, 71**

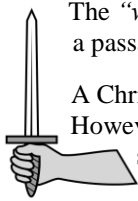
"The Bible was the **only** book Jesus ever quoted, and then never as a basis for discussion but to **decide** the point at issue."

~ Leon Morris



"And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God"
Ephesians 6:17

❖ **Circle** how the "word of God" is described in Ephesians 6:17.



The "word of God" is the only offensive weapon listed in Ephesians 6:11-17, a passage about the Armor of God.

A Christian who studies the Bible can use it to defeat his spiritual enemies. However, a Christian who is not familiar with the Bible has a weapon closer to the size of a **pocket knife** instead of a **sword**!

The Application of the Word

Memorize

*"Thy word have I hid in mine heart,
that I might not sin against Thee."*

Psalm 119:11

- ❖ **Circle** where we should hide God's Word.
 - ◆ We hide God's Word in our hearts because we *treasure* it!
- ❖ **Underline** what God's Word helps us avoid doing.



"**Heart**" refers to our *mind, soul, conscience, emotions, passions, will, and desires*. Memorizing the Bible is more than a mental exercise. It should affect your entire life.

Meditate

Meditating on God's Word involves repeatedly reviewing a passage to absorb all the spiritual "nutrients" in it. One way is to:

- **Recite** a verse over and over in your mind. Then...
- **Emphasize** a different word each time to see how that word adds to the meaning of the entire verse.

*"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly,
nor standeth in the way of sinners,
nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.
But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in His law doth he meditate day and night.
And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water,
that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither;
and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."*

Psalm 1:1-3



- ❖ **Circle** the **one word** in *Psalm 1* that describes the person who keeps himself from the **ungodly, sinners, and scornful**.
- ❖ **Underline where** this person finds his "**delight**."
- ❖ **Frame** what he does with God's Word.
- ❖ **Underline** what this person is compared to.
- ❖ **Circle** the result of this person's lifestyle.

"When you think about a problem over and over in your mind, that's called WORRY. When you think about God's Word over and over in your mind, that's MEDITATION.

If you know how to WORRY, you already know how to MEDITATE!"

~ Rick Warren



Hebrews 4:12

? Why do you think the Word of God is described as the "sword of the Spirit?"

"The **Bible** will keep you from **Sin**,
OR

Sin will keep you from the **Bible**."

~ Dwight Moody

? How does hiding God's Word in our hearts keep us from sinning?

A Way to Memorize

- 📖 **Read** the verse 3 times.
- 📖 **Write** the verse 3 times.
- 📖 **Recite** the verse from memory 3 times.
- 📖 **Review** every day for the next 10 days.

"Gather the riches of God's promises.

Nobody can take away from you those texts from the Bible which you have learned by



~ Corrie ten Boom

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*"O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day.
Thou through Thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies:
for they are ever with me.
I have more understanding than all my teachers: for Thy testimonies are my meditation.
I understand more than the ancients, because I keep Thy precepts."
Psalm 119:97-100*

- ❖ **Circle** how often the Psalmist meditated on God's Word.
- ❖ **Underline** what happens when we always keep God's commands with us.
- ❖ **Circle** what enables us to have "more understanding" than our teachers.
- ❖ **Underline** the way to "understand more than the ancients" (our elders).

*"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth;
but thou shalt **meditate** therein day and night,
that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein:
for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."
Joshua 1:8*



- ❖ **Circle** *two* times we are to "meditate" on Scripture.
- ❖ **Underline** *two* benefits of meditating **and** obeying Scripture.



These verses teach that *obeying* and *meditating* on God's Word are key to our success.

Application

*"But be ye doers of the word,
and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."
James 1:22*

- ❖ **Circle** what we **should** "do" with the Word.
- ❖ **Underline** what people who only hear the Word do to themselves.

*"And why call ye me [Jesus], Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?"
Luke 6:46*

- ❖ **Underline** what these people were **not** doing.
 - ◆ It is hypocritical to call Jesus our Lord (or Master) but not obey Him.
 - ◆ Our actions speak louder than our words!

*"Study to shew thyself approved unto God,
a workman that needeth not to be ashamed,
rightly dividing the word of truth."
2 Timothy 2:15*



We study God's Word by reading, memorizing, and meditating on it. Studying is **work**, but it enables us to become "workmen" who are not ashamed.

- ❖ **Circle** what we are to "rightly" divide.

"Rightly dividing" means you accurately understand and apply the word of God.

We began by asking how **often** we need **to eat to survive**.

- Just as we need daily nourishment for a **healthy body**,
we also need daily intake of God's Word to ensure a **healthy Spiritual life**.
- Too many Christians only hear God's Word once a week – on Sundays.

? How often do you take time for God's Word?

? How could you improve?

*"The law of Thy mouth
is better unto me
than thousands of
gold and silver."
~ Psalm 119:72*



*"A Bible that's
falling apart
usually belongs
to someone who isn't."*

~ Charles Spurgeon

*"The Bible was not given
for our **information**,
but our **transformation**."*

~ Dwight Moody

"Resolution One:
I will live for God.

Resolution Two:
If no one else does,
I still will."

~ Jonathan Edwards

? What type of foundation results from "hearing" and "doing" what the Bible says? See **Matthew 7:24-27.**

PRAYER

*Dear Lord, thank you for
giving us the Bible. Help
us make it a priority to
study, memorize, meditate,
and apply it. Amen.*