

Taking your Spirituality to the Next Level

God's Word

January 16th, 2011

Matthew 4:4 Jesus said, 'People need more than bread for their life; they must feed on every word of God.'

Hebrews 5:12 You have been Christians a long time now, and you ought to be teaching others. Instead, you still need someone to teach you ... You are like babies who drink only milk and cannot eat solid food.

HOW TO GO TO THE NEXT LEVEL...

I must accept the Bible as my authority

1 Thessalonians 2:13 We thank God continually because, when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it, not as the word of men, but actually as it is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe.

UNRELIABLE Authorities

Cul ture - Exodus 23:2

Tradition - Mark 7:8

Reason - Proverbs 16:25

Emotions - Judges 21:25

2 Timothy 3:16-17 Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another—showing us the truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God's way. Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us.

I must learn to study the Word of God

John 5:39 Search the scriptures; for in them you have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. KJV

2 Timothy 2:15 Study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that is not ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of truth. KJV

Psalms 1:1-2 Happy are those who reject the advice of evil people, who do not follow the example of sinners or join those who have no use for God. Instead, they find joy in obeying the Law of the Lord, and they study it day and night. TEV

The Devotional Method

Step 1: Pray

Psalms 119:18 Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in Your law.

Step 2: Meditation

2 Timothy 2:7 Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this.

Visualize the scene in your mind.

Say the verse aloud, each time emphasizing a different word.

Rewrite it in your own words

Insert your name in the verse

Ask: Is there any ... Sin to confess, Promise to claim, Attitude to change, command to obey, Example to follow, Prayer to pray, Error to avoid, Truth to believe, Something to thank God for
Pray the verse back to God.

Step 3: Application

John 13:17 Once you know these things you'll be blessed if you do them.

What am I going to **DO** about what I've learned?

Step 4: Memorization

Colossians 3:16 Remember what Christ taught and let His Word enrich your lives and make you wise...

Psalms 119:11 I have hidden Your Word in my heart that I might not sin against You.