

WHY READ THE BIBLE

Discipleship Guide #9

TODAY'S GOAL

- Your student(s) understands the power of the Word of God and with the understanding of its divine provision, its inerrancy, and its ability to help solve any worldly issue; your student(s) sees and uses what the Lord tells us in the Bible to help them navigate life.

OPEN IN PRAYER

- Pray together and ask God to prepare your hearts to hear from His Word today.
- NOTE: It is so important that you, as the discipleship leader, spend time praying; asking the Lord to equip you and touch the ears and heart of your student(s) to ingest and comprehend the importance of what this lesson is all about. Ask that the Holy Spirit would expose the Rhema [RAY-ma] (Living Word) to you and your student. That through Jesus in us, we would comprehend and consume the TRUTH of God's insight, instruction, and inspiration that can only come through the One who saved us.

TEACH YOUR STUDENT(S) THE 3 MEANINGS OF 'THE WORD'

- What 'specifically' is the Bible? In God's Word 'The Word' has 3 meanings (different Greek words) and all of them are discussed in the Bible. Take this time to share with your student(s) each of the following meanings of 'The Word'. Start by sharing the meaning (writing it down on a whiteboard is helpful). Then, read each passage together and help the student(s) see how each verse speaks to the particular meaning. If you want to discuss the 3 Greek words in conjunction to the following 3 meanings you can find those under the extra resources for this discipleship guide.
 - The 'Written' word - A writing or a passage of Scripture.
 - **2 Timothy 3:16; Romans 1:1-2; Romans 16:26**
 - The 'Message' of the Bible – The reason behind the words or the point of a story.
 - **Matthew 5:32; Matthew 7:24; Acts 6:7**
 - The uttered or 'Living Word' – This word is used to describe the meaning of God's instruction HE reveals to you. The word 'Spoken' by the Holy Spirit into your heart and mind.
 - **Matthew 4:4; Luke 2:29; Romans 10:8**
- Explain to your student(s) that the primary place to dwell for this discussion is on the 'Living Word'. The spiritual ramifications for your student(s) are huge. God speaks to His own, through the Holy Spirit, by revealing specific meaning to you and your student's spiritual walk and process to become more like His Son.

DISCUSS THE PROCESS AND WAYS GOD SPEAKS

- Share with your student(s) how in order to truly grasp everything God has to tell us, we must accept that the Bible God has providentially provided us is 'His Words', 'Without Error', and 'Sufficient to Answer Any Question'. God's word has something to say about every circumstance, issue, challenge, and behavior in life. It is entirely sufficient (applicable) to every aspect of the life you are living and will live.

- Discuss how Jesus says that “Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on His law he **meditates** day and night.” Psalms 1:1-2 and Psalms 37:31 says, “The law of his God is **in his heart**; his steps do not slip.” The Bible also says that God’s sheep hear His voice, He knows them, and they follow Him (John 10:27– 29). How do you hear God’s voice?...by reading His word, the Bible.
- **Process:** Talk with the student(s) about praying before every time in God’s Word. Acknowledging Who God is, confessing and repenting of our sins (clearing the way for God to talk to us through His Word), and asking God to reveal what the answers are to the questions we have. God promises that if we seek Him, we WILL find Him (Proverbs 8:17 and Jeremiah 29:13).
- **Ways God speaks:** Have you ever read a verse you have read a thousand times before, but for whatever reason it means something entirely new when you read it again? That is God, through His Holy Spirit, revealing something to you. You might also find that something God has revealed to you in His word will also show up in songs you might hear, or through another believer’s recollection of their own quiet time, or a sermon you are listening to on a podcast (or one of the pastor’s sermons at church). God has a way of repeating Himself to you when He is trying to tell you something.

LIFESTYLE BUILDING BLOCK

- As His sheep, we listen to God’s voice by being in His word. Encourage your student(s) to begin reading God’s word in anticipation and focus that He is about to tell them something.

CONSIDER OPTIONAL HOMEWORK:

- <https://1drv.ms/w/s!An5ireFvcG7q-EE1iByvIFk0UyXB>

CLOSE IN PRAYER

- End in prayer considering the passages mentioned throughout this lesson.

