



Daily Time in God's Word

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NLT)

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. ¹⁷ God uses it to prepare and equip His people to do every good work.



1. Hearing the Word of God

Romans 10:17 (NKJV)

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Ways to Hear God's Word

- The bible on audio
- Church services and studies
- Sermon video and audio
- Radio, television teachers, podcasts

PROBLEM: We forget 95 % of what we hear after 72 hours!

How to Improve Your Hearing

- Be ready and eager to hear God

Luke 8:8 (p. 812)

"He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

How to Improve Your Hearing

- Be ready and eager to hear God
- Deal with attitudes that prevent hearing God

Luke 8:18 (p. 812)

“Therefore consider carefully how you listen.”

How to Improve Your Hearing

- Be ready and eager to hear God
- Deal with attitudes that prevent hearing God
- Confess any sin in your life.

James 1:21 (NLT)

So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.

How to Improve Your Hearing

- Be ready and eager to hear God
- Deal with attitudes that prevent hearing God
- Confess any sin in your life.
- Take notes on what you hear. – Hebrews 2:1

Hebrews 2:1 (p. 941)

Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it.

How to Improve Your Hearing

- Be ready and eager to hear God
- Deal with attitudes that prevent hearing God
- Confess any sin in your life.
- Take notes on what you hear. – Hebrews 2:1
- Keep a spiritual notebook.

How to Improve Your Hearing

- Be ready and eager to hear God
- Deal with attitudes that prevent hearing God
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- Take notes on what you hear. – Hebrews 2:1
- Keep a spiritual notebook.
- Act on what you hear! James 1:25

James 1:25 (GNT)

But if you look closely into the perfect law that sets people free, and keep on paying attention to it and **do not simply listen** and then forget it, **but put it into practice—you will be blessed by God in what you do.**

2. Read God's Word

How often should I read God's Word? DAILY

Deuteronomy 17:19 (p. 151)

And it shall be with him, and he shall read in it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the Lord his God by keeping all the words of this law and these statutes, and doing them,

Suggestions for Reading God's Word

- Read it systematically
- Read and compare different translations (ESV, NIV, NLT, Amplified, KJV)
- Read it aloud quietly to yourself
- Underline or color code key verses
- Choose a reading plan and stick with it.

If I read approximately 15 minutes a day, I can read through the entire Bible in one year.

READING THE NEW TESTAMENT IN 30 DAYS

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Matthew 1-9 | 16. Acts 15-21 |
| 2. Matthew 10-15 | 17. Acts 22-28 |
| 3. Matthew 16-22 | 18. Romans 1-8 |
| 4. Matthew 23-28 | 19. Romans 9-16 |
| 5. Mark 1-8 | 20. 1 Corinthians 1-9 |
| 6. Mark 9-16 | 21. 1 Corinthians 10-16 |
| 7. Luke 1-6 | 22. 2 Corinthians 1-13 |
| 8. Luke 7-11 | 23. Galatians-Ephesians |
| 9. Luke 12-18 | 24. Philippians-2 Thessalonians |
| 10. Luke 19-24 | 25. 1 Timothy-Philemon |
| 11. John 1-7 | 26. Hebrews |
| 12. John 8-13 | 27. James-2 Peter |
| 13. John 14-21 | 28. 1 John-Jude |
| 14. Acts 1-7 | 29. Revelation 1-11 |
| 15. Acts 8-14 | 30. Revelation 12-22 |

3. Study God's Word

Acts 17:11 (PHILLIPS)

They accepted the message most eagerly
and studied the scriptures every day.

2 Timothy 2:15 (TLB)

Work hard so God can say to you, “Well done.” Be a good workman, one who does not need to be ashamed when God examines your work. **Know what His Word says and means.**

The difference between reading and studying the Bible is that you TAKE NOTES when you study.

WORD-FOR-WORD

Formal Equivalence

MEANING-FOR-MEANING

Closest Natural Equivalence

THOUGHT-FOR-THOUGHT

Functional Equivalence

PARAPHRASE

Retelling



NASB

ESV

KJV

NKJV

TRB

GW

CSB

NIV

NLT

NIRV

CEV

MSG

- CSB** Christian Standard Bible
- CEV** Contemporary English Version
- ESV** English Standard Version
- GW** GOD'S WORD Translation

- KJV** King James Version
- MSG** The Message
- NASB** New American Standard Bible
- NIRV** New International Reader's Version

- NIV** New International Version
- NKJV** New King James Version
- NLT** New Living Translation
- TRB** The Readable Bible

NIV

Then Ben-Hadad sent another message to Ahab: "May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if enough dust remains in Samaria to give each of my men a handful."

CSB

Then Ben-hadad sent messengers to him and said, "May the gods punish me and do so severely if Samaria's dust amounts to a handful for each of the people who follow me."

ESV

Ben-hadad sent to him and said, "The gods do so to me and more also, if the dust of Samaria shall suffice for handfuls for all the people who follow me."

KJV

And Benhadad sent unto him, and said, The gods do so unto me, and more also, if the dust of Samaria shall suffice for handfuls for all the people that follow me.

NKJV

Then Ben-Hadad sent to him and said, "The gods do so to me, and more also, if enough dust is left of Samaria for a handful for each of the people who follow me."

NLT

Then Ben-hadad sent this message to Ahab: "May the gods strike me and even kill me if there remains enough dust from Samaria to provide even a handful for each of my soldiers."

1 KINGS 20:10

SUGGESTED BIBLE STUDY RESOURCES

BIBLE HANDBOOKS

Richard's Complete Bible Handbook (W Pub Group (September 1, 1987))

Halley's Bible Handbook (Zondervan Revised and Expanded edition)

Eerdmans Handbook to the Bible (Eerdmans)

OTHER IMPORTANT STUDY TOOLS*

Eerdmans Dictionary of the Bible (Eerdmans)

The Moody Atlas of Bible Lands (Moody) *The New Moody Atlas of the Bible*

WORD Search Software (www.wordsearchbible.com)

www.bible.com

www.biblegateway.com

Rightnowmedia.org (contact office for access)

COMPUTER SOFTWARE AND MOBILE APPS

QuickVerse 2011 Standard Bible Study Software (Findex)

YouVersion Bible App

BibleGateway

Logos Bible Software

Olive Tree Bible Software

Accordance 13

PC Study Bible

* *As many different Bible translations as you can afford.*

4. Memorize God's Word

Proverbs 7:2-3 (TLB)

Guard My words as your most precious possession. Write them down, and also keep them deep within your heart.

Benefits of Memorizing Scripture

- It helps me resist temptation. Ps. 119:11

Psalm 119:11 (NIV)

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

Benefits of Memorizing Scripture

- It helps me resist temptation. Ps. 119:11
- It helps me make wise decisions. Ps. 119:105

Psalm 119:105 (GNT)

Your word is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path.

Benefits of Memorizing Scripture

- It helps me resist temptation. Ps. 119:11
- It helps me make wise decisions. Ps. 119:105
- It strengthens me when I'm under stress. Ps. 119:49-50

Psalm 119:49-50 (TLB)

Your promises to me . . . are my only hope. They give me strength in all my troubles; how they refresh and revive me!

Benefits of Memorizing Scripture

- It helps me resist temptation. Ps. 119:11
- It helps me make wise decisions. Ps. 119:105
- It strengthens me when I'm under stress. Ps. 119:49-50
- It comforts me when I'm sad. Jerimiah 15:16

Jeremiah 15:16 (GNT)

You spoke to me, and I listened to every word. I belong to you, Lord God Almighty, and so Your words filled my heart with joy and happiness.

Benefits of Memorizing Scripture

- It helps me resist temptation. Ps. 119:11
- It helps me make wise decisions. Ps. 119:105
- It strengthens me when I'm under stress. Ps. 119:49-50
- It comforts me when I'm sad. Jerimiah 15:16
- It helps me witness to unbelievers. 1 Peter 3:15

1 Peter 3:15 (NIV)

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

Tips for Memorizing a Verse

1. Pick a verse that speaks to you.

That's important. If the verse doesn't speak to you, don't memorize it because you're not going to remember it. You remember what's important to you. That's why you remember recipes and phone numbers and baseball statistics and anniversaries. You remember what's important. So find a verse that's important to you.

2. Say the reference before and after the verse.

John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son," etc., John 3:16. The hardest part to remember is where it is in the Bible. So you say the verse reference before and after.

3. Read the verse aloud many times. Record it!

If you say it aloud many times, you learn through the ear, not through the eye. Remember that: You learn through the ear, not only through the eye. Read the verse aloud many times.

4. Emphasize key words when quoting the verse.

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. I **can** do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

5. Write down the verse and erase a word at a time.

That's a fun thing to do. You can write the verse down and scratch out **one** word; read it again. Scratch out another word, read it again. Scratch out another word, read it again. You can do this with your children.

6. Write out the verse on a flash card.

7. Carry some cards with you at all times for review.

You can turn times of waiting into times of memorizing.

8. Display your verses in prominent places.

9. Always memorize the verse word-perfect.

In other words, don't mess it up and then find yourself saying, "Well, it's kind of like this." Memorize it word for word.

10. Put the verse to music. Write a song!

If you like to sing, you can make up songs. If you know a verse that's set to music, sing a little of it here.

11. Get a partner so you can check each other

That's a good thing to do. Have a spiritual partner who will check up on you with your verses. Make sure it's someone who's encouraging!

Suggested beginning rate: Two new verses a week.

Don't try to memorize a whole lot at start. It's better to get one a week or two a week. Now, if you memorize one verse a week, you have 50 verses memorized by the end of this year. That's a whole lot more than you've got right now. If you did two verses a week, you have a 100 verses of the Bible memorized.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY COURSE

The following verses suggest a “balance” in Scripture memory. The verses selected are key in understanding the foundations of the Christian life and growth. Do not feel tied down to this suggested list. This is only a tool to lead you in an understanding of the importance of memorizing “key” verses.

LIVE THE NEW LIFE

Christ the Center	2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 2:20
Obedience to Christ	Romans 12:1; John 14:21
The Word	2 Timothy 3:16; Joshua 1:8
Prayer	John 15:7; Philippians 4:6–7
Fellowship	Matthew 18:20; Hebrews 10:24
Witnessing	Matthew 4:19; Romans 1:16

PROCLAIM CHRIST

All Have Sinned	Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6
Sin’s Penalty	Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27
Christ Paid the Penalty	Romans 5:8; 1 Peter 3:18
Salvation Not by Works	Ephesians 2:8–9; Titus 3:5
Must Receive Christ	John 1:12; Revelation 3:20
Assurance of Salvation	1 John 5:13; John 5:24

RELY ON GOD’S RESOURCES

His Spirit	1 Corinthians 3:16; 1 Corinthians 2:12
His Strength	Isaiah 41:10; Philippians 4:13
His Faithfulness	Lamentations 3:22; Numbers 23:19
His Peace	Isaiah 26:3; 1 Peter 5:7
His Provision	Romans 8:32; Philippians 4:19
His Help in Temptation	Hebrews 2:18; Psalm 119:9

BE CHRIST’S DISCIPLE

Put Christ First	Matthew 6:33; Luke 9:23
Separate from the World	1 John 2:15–16; Romans 12:2
Be Steadfast	1 Corinthians 15:58; Hebrews 12:3
Serve Others	Mark 10:45; 2 Corinthians 4:5
Give Generously	Proverbs 3:9–10; 2 Corinthians 9:6–7
Develop World Vision	Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:19–20

Three keys to memorizing: REVIEW; REVIEW; REVIEW.

We remember what is IMPORTANT TO US.

5. Meditate on God's Word

Psalm 1:2-3 (TLB)

[Those who are] always meditating on His laws . . . are like trees along a river bank bearing luscious fruit . . . [They] shall never wither, and all they do shall prosper.

Meditation is FOCUSED THINKING about a Bible verse that speaks to you, in order to apply its truth in your own life.

Why Meditate on Scripture?

- It is the key to becoming like Christ. Proverbs 4:23

Proverbs 4:23 (GNT)

Be careful how you think; your life is shaped by your thoughts.

Romans 12:2 (NIV)

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Why Meditate on Scripture?

- It is the key to becoming like Christ. Proverbs 4:23
- It becomes a tool for praying God's will. Eph. 1:17-19

Ephesians 1:17-19 (p. 917)

that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him, ¹⁸ having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which He has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His great might...

Why Meditate on Scripture?

- It is the key to becoming like Christ. Proverbs 4:23
- It becomes a tool for praying God's will. Eph. 1:17-19
- It is the key to successful living. Joshua 1:8

Psalm 1:8 (NIV)

Meditate on it [the Word] day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

Six Ways to Meditate on a Verse

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| Picture it! | Visualize the scene in your mind. |
| Pronounce it! | Say the verse aloud, each time emphasizing a different word. |
| Paraphrase it! | Rewrite the verse in your own words. |
| Personalize it! | Replace the pronouns or people in the verse with your own name. |
| Pray it! | Turn the verse into a prayer and say it back to God. |
| Probe it! | Ask yourself the “APPLICATIONS Questions” on the next page. |

APPLICATIONS QUESTIONS

Is there any . . .

Attitude to adjust?

Promise to claim?

Priority to change?

Lesson to learn?

Issue to resolve?

Command to obey?

Activity to avoid or stop?

Truth to believe?

Idol to tear down?

Offense to forgive?

New direction to take?

Sin to confess?

6. Apply God's Word

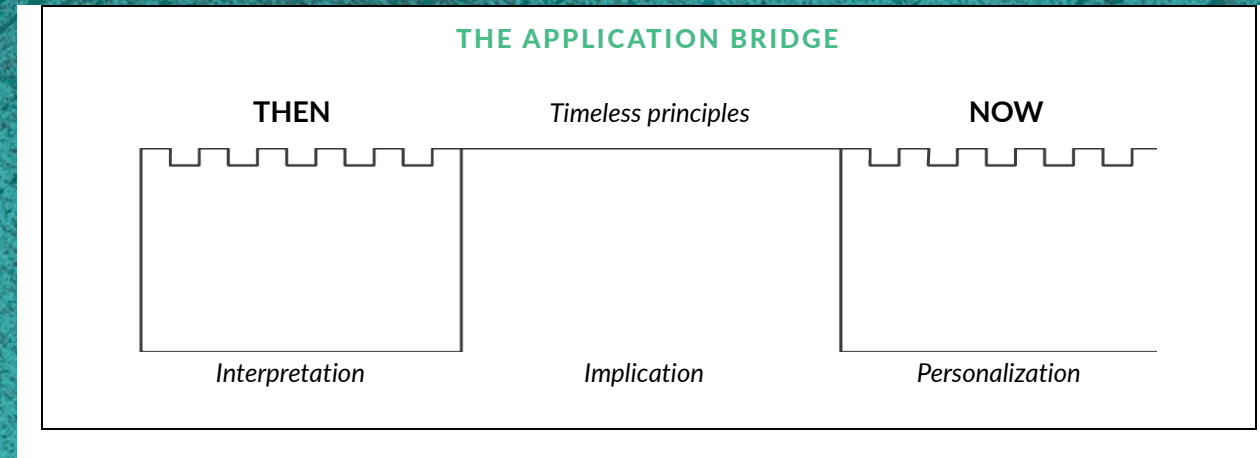
James 1:22 (GNT)

Do not deceive yourselves by just listening to His word; instead, put it into practice.

Matthew 5:19 (GNT)

"Whoever practices and teaches these commands
will be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

How to Apply Scripture



Most applications will focus on one of three RELATIONSHIPS:
with GOD, with MYSELF, with OTHERS .

Four Marks of a Good Application Action

1. It's PERSONAL.
2. It's PRACTICAL.
3. It's POSSIBLE.
4. It's PROVABLE.

John 13:17 (TLB)

“You know these things—now do them!
That is the path of blessing.”