

How to Have A Quiet Time

Reasons from Scripture to have daily quiet time, bible study

- God's word is Perfect - restores, sure, pure, true, gives wisdom Psalm 19:7-10, 14
- Protection from Sinning - Guiding Light Psalm 119:9-11, 105
- To Know God, The Word is Jesus = Truth = God John 1:1, 14
- Our Weapon Against Satan Ephesians 6:10-17 esp. 14, 17
- Study to be "Approved unto God" II Timothy 2:15
- Profitable to Equip you for All Good Work II Timothy 3:16-17
- God's Word - Discerns, Convicts and Judges the Heart Hebrews 4:12
- To Defend the Gospel - Give an Account of Hope I Peter 3:15
- Bible is not a Human Book - But Spoken by God II Peter 1:20, 21
- Words of Warning about the Bible Revelation 22:18-19

Your Appointment With God

Christ began His day by spending time with God, praying in the early morning hours (Mark 1:35). Later in His busy schedule He "would often slip away ... to pray" (Luke 5:16). Since Jesus took time to spend with God each day, and He had perfect communication with God, how much more should we get alone with God in a daily quiet time. A quiet time is a period set aside for two-way communication, communion, and meditation between you and God alone. The following are some practical pointers and suggestions for making your appointment with God nourishing and fun:

- Decide on a time. Early mornings are usually the best, but choose what works best for you.
- Plan it into your schedule.
- Choose a place.
- Get alone - you need to concentrate.
- Have a quiet attitude. Phil 4:6-7; Psalm 46:10; Lamentations 3:25-26
- Expect to meet with God and He with you. "In the morning, O Lord, Thou wilt hear my voice; in the morning I will order my prayer to Thee and eagerly watch" (Psalm 5:3).
- Keep your appointment with Him.
- Pray for the Holy Spirit to lead you in worship.

Spend time in several of the following areas before God:

- Praise
- Waiting/Listening
- Intercession
- Singing hymns Adoration
- Petition
- Thanksgiving
- Meditation Confession
- Scripture Praying
- Share what you are learning with someone else
- Write out your promise to God to meet with Him. Be specific, be honest, be personal and sign it and date it.
- Be sure to attend a solid, Biblically oriented church and participate in the fellowship of believers (Hebrews 10:24-25)

Bible Study Tips

Our motivation for studying God's word is not mainly to know more about God, but to know the God of the Bible. Jesus speaks of knowing God in John 17:3, and Paul as well in Philippians 3:8.

One way to know God and His heart is to:

- Study His attributes and character
- Study Biblical characters and their relationship with God "Doyle Method of Bible Study"
- Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide you in the Study of the Word. Read over the passage you have chosen.
- Read it in 2 or 3 different translations.
- Read it several times.
- Outline or paraphrase the passage.
- Write out what you think are the most important verses, while writing underneath each one the most important related verses from other parts of scripture which you find in your marginal reference.
- List the main points of the passage.
- List difficulties, either of understanding or of following what the text teaches, or of explaining the passage to others.
- What does the passage say about: God, the Father? God, the Son? God, the Holy Spirit? Specific applications.

Additional questions to ask:

- What does it teach me?
- Where do I fall short?
- What am I going to do about it?
- How do I make it a part of daily life?

Biographical Study of A Character

Step 1: Locate and record all scripture references of the person. You may need to use an exhaustive concordance.

Step 2: Outline the character's life by asking the following questions:

- What do we know of his/her family?
- What kind of training did he/she have as a youth?
- What was accomplished by him/her during his/her life?
- Was there a great crisis in his/her life?
- If so, how did he/she face it?
- What were his/her outstanding character traits?
- Does his/her life show any development of character?
- What was his/her experience with God?
- Notice his/her prayer life, their faith, service to God, knowledge of God's word, courage in witnessing and attitude toward the worship of God. Were there any particular faults in his/her life?
- Was there outstanding sin in their life?
- How did this come about?
- What was its effect on him/her?
- Was there some lesson in this person's life which is outstanding to you?
- What can you learn from this person's life?