

Day 2 – Reading God’s Word

One of the most obvious ways that we take in God’s Word is by reading it. Unfortunately, all it takes is a quick internet search to find that many people do not make reading God’s Word a priority, let alone a discipline, in their life. We must make the reading of God’s Word a discipline in our lives, remembering that we are commanded to train, or discipline, ourselves for the purpose of godliness (1 Tim 4:7).

If we want to become more like Jesus Christ, there is nothing “more influential in making us more like the Son of God than the Spirit of God working through the Word of God” (Whitney, *Spiritual Disciplines*, 28). As the people of God, we ought to have read, and be reading regularly, the Word of God.

Read *Matthew 4:1-11*.

In this passage, how does Jesus respond to each temptation from the devil? (*with the Word of God*)

According to verse 4, what does man live on? (*every word that comes from the mouth of God*)

This quotation from Deuteronomy 8:3 surely requires that we read God’s Word. How can we ever live by “every word that comes from the mouth of God” if we have not read “every word that comes from the mouth of God”?

Read *2 Timothy 3:16-17*.

What is God’s Word good for according to this passage?
(*teaching, reproof, correction, training in righteousness*)

Since this is true, shouldn’t we read it? (*I’ll help you out – YES!*)

Let’s begin to make reading the Bible a discipline in our lives. Find time (15 minutes a day will get you through the whole Bible in less than a year), use a Bible-reading plan (the church has provided one for this year), and meditate on at least one word, phrase, or verse every time you read (we’ll talk about meditating on the Word later this week).

Are there things you need to give up? Do you need to wake up earlier or go to bed later? What do you need to do in order to discipline yourself to read God’s Word?

Read at least one full chapter of Scripture today, either as a family or individually. You can use the Bible-reading plan, your family’s plan, or read Colossians 2 (maybe even Colossians 1&2).

Close your time of family worship in a time of prayer, confessing our failure to read and be transformed by the reading of God’s Word to be more like Christ.