Grow Deeper: Scripture February 28, 2016

Bible Verses & Quotes

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness" – 2 Timothy 3:16

"But he answered, "It is written, "'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." - Matthew 4:4

"My son, be attentive to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Let them not escape from your sight; keep them within your heart. For they are life to those who find them, and healing to all their flesh. Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life." - Proverbs 4:20-23

"God's Word must be so strongly fixed in our minds that it becomes the dominant influence in our thoughts, our attitudes, and our actions. One of the most effective ways of influencing our minds is through memorizing Scripture. David said, "I have hidden Your Word in my heart that I might not sin against You" (Psm. 119:11)." - Jerry **Bridges**

"The remedy for discouragement is the Word of God. When you feed your heart and mind with its truth, you regain your perspective and find renewed strength." - Warren Wiersbe

"Some people like to read so many [Bible] chapters every day. I would not dissuade them from the practice, but I would rather lay my soul asoak in half a dozen verses all day than rinse my hand in several chapters. Oh, to be bathed in a text of Scripture, and to let it be sucked up in your very soul, till it saturates your heart! -- Charles Haddon Spurgeon

"When you read God's Word, you must constantly be saying to yourself, 'It is talking to me, and about me." -- Soren Kierkegaard

Resources

Devotionals

Our Daily Bread (available free at the Welcome Center) Grace for the Moment by Max Lucado 5 Minutes with Jesus by Sheila Walsh

Study Resources

Barclay's Daily Study Bible The Jewish Study Bible & The Jewish Annotated New Testament Biblegateway.com – commentaries and study resources

Websites & Apps

www.sacredspace.ie - daily prayer and scripture reading online Crosswalk.com – signup for daily email devotionals. Some favorite devos are the Purpose Driven Life, Greg Laurie, Charles Stanley and Max Lucado Bible App by Life. Church – daily devotions on your phone IDisciples App – Christian devotionals, sermons and music on your phone Godvine.com – topical scripture references and Christian stories

Try It This Week

Practice the ancient disciple of lectio divina, a meditative way to read God's word. Start by sitting comfortably and picking a short passage of scripture. The Gospels and the Psalms work particularly well for this. Then go through the four steps:

Read - Slowly read the passage twice, while listening for God to speak through it. As you read, look for any word or phrase that draws your attention.

Meditate - Reflect on the word or phrase that drew your attention, invite them to shed light on our thoughts and experiences, and permit God to connect these truths to your life. Through this process, God's word becomes personal and speaks directly to our issues, decisions, hopes, and dreams—and his will for us in all of it.

Pray – Respond with prayer. Talk to God about what He is teaching you and ask His help to respond with faith.

Contemplate – End this time with a period of rest. Sit in silent reverence and listen for any final words God might have to say to you. Give thanks for this time and take this new found insight into God's Word into the world with you!