

# Bible Intake (Part 2)...

## For The Purpose Of Godliness

DECEMBER 4, 2022

# Meditating On God's Word

- Worldly meditation involves “emptying” your mind. (ex: yoga, new age, etc.)
- Christian meditation involves “filling” your mind with God and His truth. (God's Word)

# Meditating On God's Word

- Colossians 3:1-2, “If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. **Set your minds on things that are above**, not on things that are on earth.”

# Meditating On God's Word

- Meditation is deep thinking on the truths and spiritual realities revealed in Scripture, or upon life from a scriptural perspective, for the purposes of understanding, application, and prayer.

# Meditating On God's Word

- Joshua 1:8, “This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but **you shall meditate on it day and night**, *so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it.* For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.”

# Meditating On God's Word

- Read Psalm 1:1-3
- When we delight in God's Word, we will think about it (meditate) at times throughout the day and night.
- The result (according to Psalm 1): stability, fruitfulness, perseverance, and prosperity.

# Meditating On God's Word Questions

- How does the Discipline of meditation change us and place us in the path of God's blessing? (Ex: lingering by the fire).
- What does it look like to meditate on God's Word day and night?

# Applying God's Word:

- **Meaning** refers to what the author intended to communicate through the text.
- What did the text mean to the original audience?
- **Application** is the response of the reader to the meaning of the inspired text.



# Applying God's Word:

- James 1:22-25, “But **be doers of the word**, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror.” ->

# Applying God's Word:

- “For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and **perseveres**, being no hearer who forgets but **a doer who acts**, he will be blessed in his doing.”

# Applying God's Word:

- The Bible promises God's blessing on those who apply the Word of God to their lives.
- John 13:17, "If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them."

# Applying God's Word:

- 2 Timothy 3:16-17, “All Scripture is...profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness.”
- That means we should believe narratives, history, songs, prayers as **profitable** and **applicable** as the commands in Scripture.

# Applying God's Word:

- How do we apply narrative or history? 1/3 of the Bible.
- We see the story of redemption in narratives.
- “The victories and defeats, the prophets, priests, and kings of the OT all point to Jesus. Narratives call us to faith, reveal the character of the God we trust and worship, and call us to him.” (Dan Doriani)

# Applying God's Word:

- How do we apply the songs and prayers?
- “They teach us how to praise, confess sin, lament our troubles, and seek wisdom from God.” (Dan Doriani)
- They show us the language by which we can approach God in worship.

# Four Questions People Ask:

- What should I do? Duty.
- Who am I? Character.
- Where should we go? Goals.
- How can I see? Discernment.

# Example:

- Let's apply Luke 6:43-45.
- How do we apply this to our lives today?  
What is key to these verses?
- The condition of the HEART.



# Application:

- Why is it essential for people to understand the meaning of particular verses in context before applying the verses to their lives?
- Why is an overall Bible intake through hearing, reading, studying, memorizing, meditating, and applying Scripture so important?

# Looking Forward

- What is one thing you found encouraging today in this lesson?
- What is one thing you can do this week, to improve your intake of God's Word?
- What steps will you take to deal with obstacles you expect to face as you begin to put these in practice?

# Looking Forward

- Next week, December 11: chapter 4, Prayer.
- December 18: Christmas lesson.
- December 25: no class, 11am service only.
- January 1: no class, 11am service only.