**Casting Vision for the Basics (Tell Them Why)**

Reading God’s Word in the Morning

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to spend time with Him (Mark 3:14) and to daily follow Him and be vitally connected to Him (Luke 9:23, John 15:4). The best way to do this is to spend time with Jesus in His Word every morning. Let’s look at some scriptures to help explain the importance of these things.

* In **John 15:5**, Jesus says “Whoever \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.” What does this have to do with reading God’s Word daily?

**Mark 1:35** describes Jesus doing this: “rising very early in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed.” Why did Jesus do this? How did this affect His relationship with the Father?

**John 8:31-32**

**Psalm 119:97-99**

Scripture Memory/Review

When you became a Christian, God gave you a new spirit (2 Tim. 1:7), but you didn’t get a new mind. And so, the scripture explains how as believers in Jesus, we are to renew and transform our minds.

* **Romans 12:2** tells us to “not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God…”
* **Eph 4:22-24** tells us to put off our old self, and “to be renewed in the spirit of our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God…”

So how do we practically do this? How do our minds become transformed and renewed?

* **Psalm 119:9-11** asks us “how can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.” It continues to say, “I have stored up your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in my heart, that I might not sin against you.”
* **Isaiah 55:10-11** explains how God’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ “shall not return empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.”

Without a transformed mind, we will continue to think and reason and act like infant believers (1 Corinthians 13:11). We will delay and stunt our growth into a mature Christian man. And remember - whatever gets your mind, get YOU. So begin to hide God’s Word in your mind and heart, so that you will be transformed from the inside out.

Memorizing Scripture will give the Holy Spirit some “tools” in your life to work with as He guides you and give you counsel.

Prayer

Philippians 4:6-7

John 16:24

Sharing Your Faith

Romans 10:14

Ezekiel 33:8

2 Timothy 4:5