

The Gift of His Word

Preparation

Acknowledge the Privilege {Breakfast}

- Read Ephesians 2:1-10 *Ask the Holy Spirit to enable you to read this passage with fresh eyes*

How are we described before God intervened?

What motivated God's intervention? Praise him for this!

What does God graciously give us and accomplish through this intervention?

- **Take time to Praise God** for intervening in your life to bring you into a relationship with him. It is because of his intervention through Jesus Christ you are able to know him right now, what a gift!!

Confess

- Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any sin, unplowed ground (Hosea 10:12) or idols hindering you from connecting with God. Claim His forgiveness (1 John 1:9) and praise Him that it's His kindness that leads us to repentance (Romans 2:4).
- Share with God anything that is hindering you or could hinder you from engaging with Him over the course of this day. Share any hesitations, fears, expectations or challenges you might face this day of fasting/praying. Surrender this day to the Lord and whatever He would desire to do in your heart through it

- Ask the Holy Spirit to “Incline my heart to your testimonies, and not to selfish gain! Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things; and give me life in your ways.” (Psalm 119:36-37)

Biblical View of God’s Word {Lunch}

Recently, the Lord has convicted me that I do not view his word as he does. How often do my days, time and thoughts reflect that I do not believe God’s word to be **absolutely vital** in my life. My prayer is that God would help us see his word rightly and to renew our pursuit of Him specifically through His word.

What are some current reasons you give for not being in God’s word, meditating on or memorizing his truth? (Ask this in love, enveloped in grace) If need be, confess them to the Lord, claiming his forgiveness.

Believe it’s crucial for us to remember we have a very real enemy who would seek to keep us away or cause us to doubt the living and active words of God (Ephesians 6:10-19, Genesis 3:1)

How might your perspective change if you saw those reasons you listed above as possible attempts, lies, or distractions from the enemy to keep you from God’s word?

- **Read each of these verses, writing down how God’s word is described and what it accomplishes: (Praise Him for the gift of His Word!!)**

Hebrews 4:12

Isaiah 55:10-11

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Psalm 119:89, 152

Psalm 119:49-50

Matthew 4: 1-4

Some of you may hate this hypothetical question, but bear with me ☺ After reading those verses, if God were to personally place in your hands, a copy of the Bible, with a message for you concerning this book, what might he say to you?

Read Psalm 19 {Dinner}

“In singing this psalm, God’s people celebrate his law, the Torah, as his supreme revelation of himself. The psalm recounts the way creation speaks of its Maker (vv1-6), and then the way in which the Mosaic law addresses the soul (vv.7-11), followed by the humble response that this calls for (vv. 12-14).” ESV notes

For reference:

- **Law:** instruction
- **Testimonies:** what God solemnly testifies
- **Precepts:** what God has appointed to be done
- **Statutes:** what the divine Lawgiver has laid down
- **Commandments:** what God has commanded
- **Rules:** what the divine Judge has ruled to be right
- **Word:** what God has spoken

Specifically focusing on verses 7-11

How are the various elements of God’s word described? Go verse by verse.

Any specific description of God’s word bring you encouragement? Any particular one harder to believe? Why?

Note the definition of the verbs used:

- **Revive:** restore to life, give new strength or energy to
- **Make wise** (look up the cross references: 1 Cor 1:27-31, 2 Timothy 3:15)

What insight do you gain into this phrase “making wise the simple” found in v.7?

- **Rejoice:** cause joy to
- **Enlighten:** give (someone) greater knowledge and understanding about a subject or situation, give (someone) spiritual knowledge or insight.

What does his law, testimonies, precepts, and commandments accomplish?

Is there any area(s) of your life where you need restoration, new strength, wisdom, joy, understanding or insight?

Jot down any verses that come to mind that would bring encouragement, perspective, hope or strength into this area. Speak these aloud to your soul right now.

Note v. 10 in which “the fundamental attitude here is one of delight: God’s instructions are more desirable than the best riches and pleasurable than the finest tastes.” ESV note

In what ways/situations has God’s instruction brought life to you, encouraged and/or strengthened you? Thank him for that!

What currently hinders you from delighting in the word of God? Or hinders/stunts your delight of God’s word?

Read Psalm 63:1-8 {Following morning}

This Psalm has been the prayer I've had over our staff team and students, asking God to make the posture of David's heart towards the Lord be the same as our hearts and our students' hearts. What gets me excited about praying this prayer, is that I'm confident the Lord will answer it (how, when and in what way, I do not know) because it's in accordance with his will. Take time to ask God to make this Psalm reflect the posture of your heart and the students within our movement.

List any students who are under your care or come to mind. Pray that this Psalm would be the posture of their heart towards the Lord.

“O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.
Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.
So I will bless you as long as I live;
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food,
and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips,
when I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the watches of the night;
for you have been my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy.
My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.”