

Crossword Puzzle



Across

Down

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| <p>4. We need to develop a _____ of reading the Bible.</p> <p>7. Timothy's _____ read him the Word.</p> <p>10. The first book in the New Testament.</p> <p>11. ...spiritual nourishment and _____.</p> <p>15. The New _____.</p> <p>18. We need to have the _____ Bible not just the New Testament.</p> <p>19. We need to say _____ to God's Word.</p> <p>20. ...simply continue on the _____ day...</p> <p>21. The Word of _____.</p> | <p>1. Use a bookmark and _____ to read each day where you left off.</p> <p>2. Use a _____ and continue...</p> <p>3. The _____ Testament.</p> <p>5. God's Word.</p> <p>6. Consider what would be the best _____ each day to read the Word.</p> <p>8. Timothy's _____ read him the Word.</p> <p>9. Paul told Timothy to continue on in God's Word by reading and _____.</p> <p>12. A good _____ would be 1 chapter...</p> <p>13. Paul was Timothy's spiritual _____.</p> <p>14. A good example of a _____ who grew up strongly in God's Word...</p> <p>16. The Word of God is _____ and life.</p> <p>17. We need to _____ the Word of God.</p> |
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Parent's Initials:



The Truth and Experience of God's Salvation

- Lesson Twenty-Three -

How to Contact the Lord (5) -

By Reading the Bible (2)

I. Overview.

In order for us to grow in our spiritual life we must be nourished by God's Word. We need to develop a habit of reading the Bible in a regular way. As we feed on His Word through our reading the Bible, we will find that we are growing. We will be growing both in our spiritual life and in our understanding of God's Word. As we read God's Word, we shouldn't look for some kind of special feeling in order to know that we are growing. Just as we



In order to grow properly we must be nourished by the Word of God.

naturally grow when we eat our physical food, so also when we eat our spiritual food (the Word of God), we will grow.

It is important that we develop a habit of reading the Bible. Nothing is more important for young believers to do. We can imagine what would happen to a person who refused to eat his physical food. We should become a person who eats our spiritual food daily.

II. Memory Verse.

"It is the Spirit who gives life... the words which I have spoken to you are spirit and are life."

(John 6:63)

III. Lesson.

A good example of a person who grew up strongly in God's Word is Timothy. The Bible tells us that "from a babe" he grew up with God's Word. This was mainly because his mother and grandmother fed him with the Word and taught it to him. When he was older, the apostle Paul, his spiritual father, told him to continue on in God's Word by reading it and diligently studying it on his own.

Some Practical Points on Reading the Bible

If we pay attention to a few practical points we will be helped in our reading of God's Word. Firstly, we should try to get our own Bible. We need to have the entire Bible, not just the New Testament. Also, in order to make it easier for us to develop the habit of reading the Bible, we should consider what the best time of the day would be for us to read regularly. This means that we should make a plan.

It is good to start by reading the New Testament – beginning with Matthew. It is best not jump around to different places. Use a bookmark and continue to read each day where you left off the day before. It helps to have a goal when you read. A good goal would be to try to read one chapter a day. Don't set your goal too high; you might not make it and get discouraged.



If we develop good habits of reading God's Word, we will certainly have wonderful growth.

If you do not succeed in reading your planned amount on one day, simply continue on the next day where you left off. Try your best to keep to your scheduled time. As you work to develop your habit, it

will be easier as time goes on. The hardest part is simply getting started.

As you read the Bible, have a pencil handy. When you find a verse that is especially meaningful to you, underline it. When you find a verse or two that especially draws your attention, pause and spend some time on them by pray-reading. By pray-reading we are brought deeper into the Word by mingling our reading with prayer. Since the Word of God is spirit and life, we need to use our spirit as we read His Word in order to get the benefit of spiritual nourishment and understanding. We can mingle our reading with prayer, even using the very words we are reading, and say "Amen!" to His Word.

--- Questions for Discussion ---

1. How can we grow spiritually?

2. Who is a good example to us of a person who grew up with the Word of God?

3. What is the hardest part of establishing a habit?

4. What should you do if you fall short of your goal?

