

“GOD’S WORD PART 1: THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BIBLE” LEADER’S GUIDE

You’re on the first spoke of the wheel! Getting your disciple into God’s Word is so important, as it is the basis of everything these discipleship lessons are built on.

PURPOSE

To help your disciple see the importance of knowing God through spending regular time in His Word.

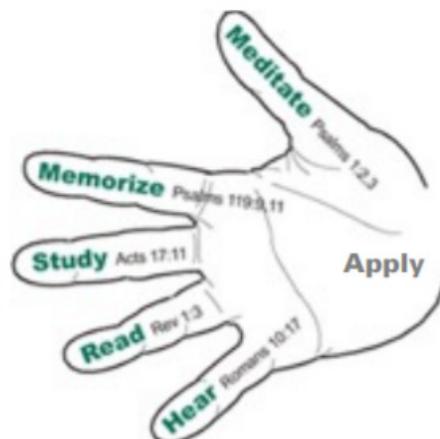
- To understand what it means to have a “quiet time” with God.
- To teach your disciple how to do a “SOAP” to study the Bible.

PLAN

1. Take a moment to pray for your time with your disciple and to prepare for your lesson. Spend a few minutes talking to them about their week. Ask them how their new relationship with Christ is going if they have recently accepted Christ. Read the lesson and the Scriptures before the meeting. You should do this before every lesson moving forward. Make sure you are familiar with the verses and their context. Have your own personal answers to any questions, in case they struggle to come up with anything. Talk to your discipler if you’re unfamiliar with anything.
2. Follow up with any questions they may have or discuss anything you talked about last time you met. Debrief “My Heart Christ’s Home.” What stood out to them from it? Do they have any questions?
3. Review last week’s Memory Verse. If they got it, celebrate with them! If they don’t, ask them why. You want them to understand that this will be a regular part of your meetings moving forward.
4. Go through the lesson, explaining the illustrations as they come up. A guide on how to do the illustrations is provided at the end of this guide.
5. Do a SOAP with your disciple. The best way to teach a principle to your disciple is by example. Go through Ephesians 4:25-32 with your disciple. Ask them which verse stood out to them. Ask them why that verse stood out to them. Help them make an application and write out a prayer.
6. Ask your disciple if they had any questions. Take a moment to pray with them, asking God to help them to spend time with Him in His word. Give the discipleship challenge.

KEY ILLUSTRATIONS

The Hand (Resource by The Navigators)



1. Before you start, bring a bible (or you can use any books you might have on hand). Have your student make an outline of their hand on the back of page 2.
2. Tell them that as Christians, we need a good “grip” on the Word. And to have a good grip, you need to use your whole hand.

BE A DISCIPLE

3. In the pinkie finger, write the word "Hear". Read the text accompanying the point. Do the same, putting "Read" in the ring finger, "Study" in the middle finger, "Memorize" in the pointer finger, "Meditate" in the thumb, and "Apply" in the palm/wrist.
4. Bring out the book, and ask them to pick it up and hold it with just their pinky and ring fingers. If they manage to do so, tell them to keep you from taking it. Explain that it's important to have a firm grip on God's Word by using all of these concepts together, and not focusing on just a couple of them.

The Tune-Up

1. Ask "Imagine you are getting together with your best buds and you're going to go on a cross-country road trip. You want to make sure your car is going to make it through the trip, so when is the best time to get a tune-up? Before you leave on your trip, or after?"
2. Explain that the same principle works when spending time with God. Spending time with God early in the day allows God and His Word to speak to us throughout the day allowing us opportunities to apply what God showed us through our quiet time.

GOD'S WORD PART 1: THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BIBLE

Memory verse checklist:

- 2 Corinthians 5:17

VERSE OF THE WEEK: Joshua 1:8 "Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful."

THROUGH GOD'S WORD, WE CAN KNOW HIM PERSONALLY!

What do you spend time thinking about?

According to this verse, what is the benefit of reading, thinking about, and obeying God's Word?

How could God's Word help improve your life?

HOW TO INTAKE THE BIBLE: THE HAND ILLUSTRATION

- Hear** God's Word from leaders, online sermons and books.
"So faith comes from hearing, that is, hearing the Good News about Christ." - Romans 10:17
- Read** God's Word with a plan during your quiet time.
Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near." - Revelation 1:3
- Study** God's Word and go deeper to discover meaning.
"Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true." - Acts 17:11
- Memorize** God's Word to get it into your heart.
"I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you." - Psalm 119:11
- Meditate** on God's Word thinking deeply about the meaning of the verses.
"but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers." - Psalm 1:2-3
- Apply** God's Word making practical applications to do what you learn.
"Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says."- James 1:22

BE A DISCIPLE

GETTING STARTED: QUIET TIMES

A “Quiet Time” is any time spent between you and God. It can be intimidating to try and study the Bible to many, so here’s a great and easy way to get started.

1. Get a Bible, a journal and a pen (Always keep them where you can find them).
2. Find a place somewhere without distractions (not in your bed—it may become a really quiet time)!
3. Pick a time. Mornings are a great way to start your day with God (Tune-up Illustration), but do what works best for you! What time might work best for you?
4. Start Out with SOAPs. This method is easy to remember, and helps you get started in how to study the Bible.
 - o Scripture: Choose a book of the Bible to read. Then, try and read one to three chapters a day. Look for a verse that particularly impressed you that day, and write it in your journal.
 - o Observation: What do you think God is saying to you in this scripture? Write down why the passage stuck out to you. Write down your thoughts about the verse.
 - o Application: How should I live differently? Write out an application. Make **S.M.A.R.T** applications! Make them Specific, Measurable, Action-oriented, Realistic and Timely.
 - o Prayer: Spend some time praying about what you learned from the passage and surrendering your life to follow Him today. Write out a prayer in your journal.

Lets try a SOAP together on the verse below! It’s Ephesians 4:25-32

“25 Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. 26 “In your anger do not sin”: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, 27 and do not give the devil a foothold. 28 Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.

29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. 32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”

DISCIPLESHIP CHALLENGE: Keep reading through John! If you’ve finished it, start in Proverbs. Have a SOAP Quiet Time 5 days this week. Bring your journal and be ready to share some SOAPs. Memorize Joshua 1:8