**Living Like Jesus – Bible practices**

1. **Hear God’s Word**

***Blessed are those who hear the word of the God and keep it! Lk. 11:28***

1. **Hearing God’s word leads to faith in God**

*Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God – Rm. 10:17*

We hear by hearing God’s word read, preached or taught

We hear by reading God’s word – we hear with our eyes!

1. **Hear God’s word with repentance**

*Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls – James 1:21*

1. **Hear God’s word with humility**

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1. **Hearing God’s word we learn God’s word – Phil 4:9**
2. **Hearing God’s word saves you**

*Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls – James 1:21*

1. **Hearing God’s word grows you up in Christlikeness – 1Pet. 2:2**

*Like newborn babies long for the pure milk of the word, so that you may grow in respect to salvation*

**Practices for hearing God’s word**

1. Hear it attentively
2. Hear it personally
3. Hear it faithfully
4. Hear it believingly
5. Hear it obediently
6. **Read God’s word**

***Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of God - Mt. 4:4***

*Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God*

1. **Read God’s word with discipline – 2 Tim. 3:16**

*All scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness*

1. **Read God’s word with preparation – Ps. 119:18**

*Open my eyes, that I may behold wonderful things from your law*

1. **Read God’s word with commitment & time**
2. **Read God’s word with a reading plan in order – 5 x 5 x 5 – on website**
3. **Read God’s word with notes – journal what you discover**
4. **Read God’s word with markings in your bible**
5. **Study God’s word**

***Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so***

***Acts 17:11***

1. Study God’s word reflectively – ask what do I see, observe? What do I need to obey, what do I need to learn?
2. Study God’s word Book by book & verse by verse

As you are reading God’s word note key verses & review the verse seeking to understand the meaning

1. Study God’s word – **word study**

Look up the word in all the places in the bible in a concordance and read them, compare them.

1. Study God’s word – **character study** – Study the life of God’s people of faith

**Practices in study**

1. Record your findings from your study paper journal, computer, or tablet
2. Review your finding from your study – pray through them, apply them
3. Bible Study requires:

Repetition

Concentration

Comprehension

Reflection

**Tools for Bible Study**

1. A bible you can mark and make notes in
2. A study bible with notes -
3. A concordance – Crudens concordance, or blueletterbible.org
4. The new Matthew Henry commentary – good starter commentary

**Home work for the week**

Day 1 – Prepare & attend worship practice listening – hearing the preaching of the Word of God

Day 2 – Read a chapter of God’s word – choose a reading plan if you do not already have one

Day 3 – Choose a chapter you have read in your bible to study. Choose the verse that God seems to be presenting to your mind. Study the verse & apply it.

**Living Like Jesus – Bible Practices**

**4. Memorizing God’s Word**

***How shall a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to Your word. With all my heart I have sought You; do not let me wander from your commandments. Your word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against you. Ps. 119: 9 -11***

1. **Scripture memorization supplies spiritual power 119:11**
2. **Scripture memorization strengthens your faith Pr. 22:17 -19**
3. **Scripture memorization stays with you in all of life’s conditions**
4. **Scripture memorization guides you 119:24**
5. **Scripture memorization leads to meditation – reflective thinking 119:97**

**5. Meditating on God’s Word**

***How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of scoffers! But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night. He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season and its leaf does not wither; and in whatever he does, he prospers Ps. 1: 1 -3***

1. **Meditation = growl, moan, muse, mutter – like cattle chewing their cud; like a lion**

**growling over their captured prey**

1. **Scripture meditation begins from hearing, reading, studying & memorizing God’s word**
2. **Scripture meditation is the process of internalizing, reflecting & applying God’s word**
3. **Scripture meditation moves scripture knowledge to wisdom & to understanding**
4. **Scripture meditation stills the mind, assures the mind & sets the mind on God’s word & its truth**

**Promised results from meditation on God’s word**

1. **Josh 1:8**
2. **James 1:25**

**Meditation methods**

1. **Emphasize different words in the text**
2. **Rewrite the text in your own words**
3. **Determine what the passage is teaching**
4. **Pray through the passage & the truth discovered from the text**
5. **Slowly digest the truths of the passage – never hurry**

**Be still and know that I am God!**

**Wonderful Words of Life – P Bliss**

**1** Sing them over again to me,
Wonderful words of life;
Let me more of their beauty see,
Wonderful words of life;
Words of life and beauty
Teach me faith and duty.

**Refrain:**Beautiful words, wonderful words,
Wonderful words of life;
Beautiful words, wonderful words,
Wonderful words of life.

**2** Christ, the blessed one, gives to all
Wonderful words of life;
Sinner, list to the loving call,
Wonderful words of life;
All so freely given,
Wooing us to heaven. [Refrain]

**3** Sweetly echo the gospel call,
Wonderful words of life;
Offer pardon and peace to all,
Wonderful words of life;
Jesus, only Savior,
Sanctify forever. [Refrain]