

# Spiritual Maturity

## Lesson Two Student

*"Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God"*  
**Romans 10:17**

The way to have faith (trust) in God is to **know who He is by His**  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Faith is \_\_\_\_\_ **in His heart and His character.**

*Remaining confident in God comes by internalizing scripture that describes His character* – and letting the Spirit move it **from your** \_\_\_\_\_ **to your**  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**Jer 31:31-33 (NIV)**

*"The day is coming," says the Lord, "when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and Judah. This covenant will not be like the one I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand and brought them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant, though I loved them as a husband loves his wife," says the Lord.*

*"But this is the new covenant I will make with the people of Israel on that day," says the Lord. "I will put my instructions deep within them, and I will write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.*

We are the recipients of this promise – the \_\_\_\_\_! God inside us, working in us to *want* to get to know Him and to the *ability* to get to know him!  
**(Phillipians 2:13)**

**We are God's** \_\_\_\_\_ – it is our responsibility to **set time aside to get to know Him** through His Word. God has given you the ability to remember and memorize His Word! The Spirit then writes it on your heart. Remember to ask for and claim that promise!



You will find that the Word will transform you (be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind) as **keep the Word fresh** \_\_\_\_\_!

**So go ahead, find out all about Him!**

**What ticks Him off?**

**What makes Him smile?**

The first step is....

### **I. READING God's Word**

"Happy is the one who **reads** this book ... and obeys what is written in it!" **Rev. 1:3 (GN)**

**How often should I read God's Word?** \_\_\_\_\_.

*"(The Scriptures) shall be his constant companion. He must read from it everyday of his life so*

*that he will learn to respect the Lord his God by obeying all of his commands."*

**Deut. 17:19 (1B)**

**If I read approximately \_\_\_\_\_ minutes a day, I can read through the Bible once a year.**

#### **A. Reading Suggestions:**

- 1) Read it \_\_\_\_\_, not randomly.
- 2) Read it in different translations for \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) Read it \_\_\_\_\_ quietly to yourself.
- 4) Underline or color code \_\_\_\_\_ verses.



## II. STUDYING God's Word

"... they accepted the message eagerly and **studied the Scriptures everyday ...**"  
**Acts 17:11 (Ph)**

"Be a good workman ... **Know what His Word says and means.**"  
**2 Tim. 2:15**

**The difference between reading and studying the Bible is that you**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **when you study.**

### A. Styles of Bible Study

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Follow a topic throughout scripture
  - Maybe you want to strengthen your faith - use a concordance and find all the verses in the Bible on Faith. Write them down in a notebook. Then read them through one after the other. This works really well with a Bible computer program.
  
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Select a Bible character and read all about him/her
  - Many women's studies focus on the book of Ruth. Ruth was faithful - read the Word and see what happened. A study on Abraham could teach anyone a lot about faith. Think you can't change? Study Paul and see how God changed him.
  
- 3) **Study of a** \_\_\_\_\_
  - Select a passage or chapter and find out exactly what it means.
  - Maybe choose Psalm 23 and go through sentence by sentence and word by word. Start by reading and re-reading the passage, perhaps in different translations.
  - Write the passage in your own words (paraphrase)
  
- 4) **Study of a** \_\_\_\_\_
  - Select a book and endeavor to master it
  - Some items to find out are:
    1. Authorship
    2. To whom it was addressed
    3. Circumstances it was written under
    4. Purpose of the book
    5. Main teachings





### C. Suggested Study Helps

#### 1) Bibles

- **Parallel Bibles:**  
People's Parallel Edition (KJV & NLT)- Tyndale  
Parallel Bible (KJV & AMP) - Zondervan
- **Topical Study Bibles:**  
Thompson Chain Reference Bible - Kirkbride

#### 2) Resources

- **Concordance (*list of every word & where it is*)**  
Strong's Exhaustive Concordance – Nelson  
[www.blueletterbible.org](http://www.blueletterbible.org)  
[www.biblegateway.org](http://www.biblegateway.org)
- **Topical Reference Books**  
[www.pentecostalpublishing.com](http://www.pentecostalpublishing.com)

### III. MEMORIZING God's Word

*"Guard my words as your most precious possession.  
Write them down, and also **keep them deep within your heart.**"  
Pr. 7:2-3 (LB)*

#### A. You will find that internalizing God's Word will:

1. Help me \_\_\_\_\_ who He is (builds your trust & confidence in Him)
2. Help me \_\_\_\_\_ like Him!
  - a. It helps me resist \_\_\_\_\_



"I have hidden your Word in my heart that I might not sin against you."  
**Ps. 119:11(NLT)**

b. **It helps me make wise** \_\_\_\_\_

"Your Word is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path".  
**Ps. 119:105 (NLT)**

3. **It** \_\_\_\_\_ **me**

"... Your promises to me are my hope. They give me strength in all my troubles; how they refresh and revive me!"  
**Ps. 119:49 (LB)**

4. **It** \_\_\_\_\_ **me**

"Your words are what sustain me ... They bring joy to my sorrowing heart and delight me."  
**Jer. 15:16 (LB)**

**\*\* As you get the Word in your mind, remember to ask God to put it in your \_\_\_\_\_! \*\***

### **B. Try Memorizing Verses:**

- While exercising
- While waiting (spare moments)
- At bedtime (Ps 63:6)

### **C. How To Memorize:**

**Do what works for you!**

- \_\_\_\_\_ it down, over & over
- \_\_\_\_\_ it aloud, over & over
- Break it into \_\_\_\_\_
- Post \_\_\_\_\_ of the verse to remind you (bathroom mirror, in your lunch bag, in wallet, etc)



**D. Try 1 or 2 new verses this week!**

**God's Personality**

- Jeremiah 9:24
- Psalm 149:4

**Promises to Me**

- Heb 13:5
- Romans 8:28
- Luke 12:31

**God's Love toward Me**

- Jer 31:3
- Ps 139:17-18
- John 3:16
- Gal 2:20
- 1 John 4:19

**IV. HOW TO MEDITATE ON GOD'S WORD**

*"(Those) who are always **meditating** on His Laws ... are like trees along a river bank bearing fruit ...they never wither and whatever they do prospers." Ps. 1:2-3 (LB)*

**Meditation is \_\_\_\_\_ about a Bible verse in order to discover how I can apply its truth to my own life.**

**A. Ways To Meditate On A Verse**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ **it!** Visualize the scene in your mind.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ **it!** Say the verse aloud, each time emphasizing a different word.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ **it!** Rewrite the verse in your own words.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ **it!** Replace the pronouns/people in the verse with your own name.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ **it!** Turn the verse into a prayer and say it back to God.

**Handout 1:**  
**A BIBLE READING PLAN**  
**THROUGH THE NEW TESTAMENT IN 63 DAYS**

- Day 1 - Matthew 1-2, Acts 1-3
- Day 2 - Matthew 3-4, Acts 4-6
- Day 3 - Matthew 5-6, Acts 7-9
- Day 4 - Matthew 7-8, Acts 10-12
- Day 5 - Matthew 9-10, Acts 13-15
- Day 6 - Matthew 11-12, Acts 16-18
- Day 7 - Matthew 13-14, Acts 19-21
- Day 8 - Matthew 15-16, Acts 22-24
- Day 9 - Matthew 17-18, Acts 25-27
- Day 10 - Matthew 19-20, Acts 28
- Day 11 - Matthew 21-22, Romans 1-3
- Day 12 - Matthew 23-24, Romans 4-6
- Day 13 - Matthew 25-26, Romans 7-9
- Day 14 - Matthew 27-28, Romans 10-12
- Day 15 - Mark 1-2, Romans 13-15
- Day 16 - Mark 3-4, Romans 16
- Day 17 - Mark 5-6, 1 Corinthians 1-2
- Day 18 - Mark 7-8, 1 Corinthians 3-4
- Day 19 - Mark 9-10, 1 Corinthians 5-7
- Day 20 - Mark 11-12, 1 Corinthians 8-10
- Day 21 - Mark 13-14, 1 Corinthians 11-13
- Day 22 - Mark 15-16, 1 Corinthians 14-16
- Day 23 - Luke 1-2, 2 Corinthians 1-3
- Day 24 - Luke 3, 2 Corinthians 4-6
- Day 25 - Luke 4, 2 Corinthians 7-9
- Day 26 - Luke 5, 2 Corinthians 10-11
- Day 27 - Luke 6, 2 Corinthians 12-13
- Day 28 - Luke 7, Galatians 1-3
- Day 29 - Luke 8, Galatians 4-6
- Day 30 - Luke 9, Ephesians 1-3
- Day 31 - Luke 10, Ephesians 4-6
- Day 32 - Luke 11, Philippians 1-2
- Day 33 - Luke 12, Philippians 3-4
- Day 34 - Luke 13, Colossians 1-2
- Day 35 - Luke 14, Colossians 3-4
- Day 36 - Luke 15, 1 Thessalonians 1-3
- Day 37 - Luke 16, 1 Thessalonians 4-6
- Day 38 - Luke 17, 2 Thessalonians 1-3
- Day 39 - Luke 18, 1 Timothy 1-3
- Day 40 - Luke 19, 1 Timothy 4-6
- Day 41 - Luke 20, 2 Timothy 1-2
- Day 42 - Luke 21, 2 Timothy 3-4
- Day 43 - Luke 22, Titus 1-3
- Day 44 - Luke 23, Philemon 1
- Day 45 - Luke 24, Hebrews 1-2
- Day 46 - John 1-2, Hebrews 3-4
- Day 47 - John 3-4, Hebrews 5-7
- Day 48 - John 5-6, Hebrews 8-10
- Day 49 - John 7-8, Hebrews 11-13
- Day 50 - John 9-10, Hebrews 14-16
- Day 51 - John 11-12, James 1-3
- Day 52 - John 13-14, James 4-5
- Day 53 - John 15-16, 1 Peter 1-2
- Day 54 - John 17-18, 1 Peter 3-5
- Day 55 - John 19-20, 2 Peter 1-3
- Day 56 - 1 John 1-5
- Day 57 - 2 John 1, 3 John 1, Jude 1
- Day 58 - Revelation 1-4
- Day 59 - Revelation 5-8
- Day 60 - Revelation 9-12
- Day 61 - Revelation 13-16
- Day 62 - Revelation 16-19
- Day 63 - Revelation 20-22

## HANDOUT 2:

### HOW TO APPLY SCRIPTURE

**1st ask:** What did it mean to the original hearers?

**2nd ask:** What is the underlying timeless principle?

**3rd ask:** Where or how could I practice that principle?

#### AN EXAMPLE:

**Scriptural Passage:** 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

**Interpretation:** Paul requested that the Corinthian Christians not eat meat offered to idols so as not to offend weaker believers recently delivered from idol worship, even though they knew the idols had no power.

**Implication:** Don't do anything that offends a fellow Christian, even if the activity is not sinful in and of itself.

**Personalization:** Even though going to a restaurant where alcohol is served is not a sin, and I wouldn't be tempted to sin if I went there to eat, it wouldn't be right to take a brother who used to be an alcoholic and is offended by it to such a restaurant since it might tempt him to fall into sin.