

ENGRAVING GOD'S WORD ON OUR HEARTS AND MINDS

A STUDY ON DRAWING CLOSER TO GOD



A NOTE TO THE READER

All of our studies are designed to move you beyond head knowledge and into genuine, Spirit-led transformation. You will observe, question, reflect, and respond — but always with the understanding that real change is not wholly based upon the product of your effort. It is the fruit of the Holy Spirit’s work in a yielded heart. With that, remember, do not rush. There is no time limit to complete these lessons. Transformation cannot be scheduled or planned. So move at a pace in accordance with the Holy Spirit’s leading.

PREPARING THE SOIL OF OUR HEART

You will notice that each lesson begins with a section called “Preparing the Soil of Our Heart.” This is a time where we simply pause, breathe, humble ourselves, slow down, confess sins, and prepare our hearts to receive the seed of God’s word. Just as a farmer prepares ground before planting seed, we are invited to prepare ourselves before each lesson: quieting our minds, releasing our distractions, and asking the Holy Spirit to make us ready to receive whatever God wants to say to us. Whether you have followed Christ for decades or are simply curious about what the Bible says, this moment of preparation is necessary to maximize your time with the Lord.

HOW TO USE THIS STUDY

I have tried to get each lesson to follow the same structure whenever possible. You may work through it privately at your own pace or use it alongside a small group or Sunday school class. If you are studying in a group, the “Going Deeper” prompts throughout each section are designed to open conversation naturally. If you are studying alone, those same prompts become an invitation to go further in your personal reflection or prayer.

ANSWERS

When applicable, the answers to the questions found in this book will appear at the end of each chapter.

LESSON ONE: BREAKFAST WITH THE FATHER

CHAPTER 1

SAVORING THE WORD OF GOD

PREPARING THE SOIL OF OUR HEART

Before you open the Word, open your heart. Take a moment to still yourself before God. You may use the prayer below or speak your own.

Holy Spirit, I ask You to be my teacher today. Set aside my assumptions, my distractions, and my own agenda. Make the soil of my heart ready to receive whatever You want to plant in me through this lesson. Speak, Lord — I am listening.

SECTION 1

Beginning the Day with the Father

Would you like a closer relationship with God? Do you desire to follow after Him more closely? Not to get things from Him, of course, but rather to become more like Him out of a pure heart. Not expecting anything in return from Him, but simply because we love Him. If so, then this study is for you!

¹ *Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.*

Matthew 22:37 (KJV)

If the above does not describe you, but yet deep down inside you know that you need to draw closer to God, be more devoted to Him, and become more like Him, then this study might help you to achieve that. I'm not saying this study will give you the right heart simply because

you complete it. No study can do that. That can only be accomplished through the work of the Holy Spirit, in conjunction with **effort** on your part to follow His leading and being obedient to His guidance and direction. Now, even though this study will not change your heart on its own by completing it. It will certainly help point you in the right direction of developing a right heart.

It will do this by helping provide you with concepts that lead to the formation of habits. Which in turn will help propel you in the right direction. This is accomplished by helping you to learn some basic, ancient foundations that will allow you, if used correctly. To give God the time, devotion, and intimacy that He deserves. It will also provide you with concepts you can use to help integrate God's Word more deeply into your life.

By applying these foundations and concepts, the hope is that it will create a desire to go deeper into God's word. Thus making His word an integral part of your life. And with that, if you fall into this second category that I spoke of earlier. Where you just can't seem to assimilate that drawing desire for Him. I encourage you to ask the Holy Spirit to truly change you to become a true follower of Jesus and to become like Jesus and to put the love for Jesus in your soul. I say this because we are taught in scripture the importance of this when we are told:

³⁰ . . . thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.

Mark 12:30 (KJV)

You see, if your love for the world is greater than your love for Him. Then I question who you really love. And I say this with all humility but also with the authority of scripture as found in the verses below:

⁴ Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

James 4:4 (KJV)

15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

1 John 2:15-16 (KJV)

²¹ He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

²² Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world?

²³ Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

²⁴ He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.

John 14:21-24 (KJV)

So, with that in mind, one of the first ways we can begin to love the Lord as He has called us to—and as He desires us to—is by planting the seeds of His Word deep within our hearts, souls, spirits, and minds. Then we must nurture those seeds and care for them as though our very lives depended upon them, much like a man who grows his own food must carefully tend his crops, because his very life and physical nourishment depend upon the harvest.

Then, as those seeds take root, grow, and eventually produce a harvest in our lives, we continue to draw from that harvest for the nourishment of our spirits. You see, the more deeply God's Word is planted within us and the more faithfully we nurture it, the more it can produce spiritual fruit in our lives. That fruit can then provide the nourishment we need to grow strong and mature in the Lord. So one of the first ways we can do this is to put scripture

in our hearts and before our eyes by reading and studying God's word so that it remains continually before our eyes (2 Timothy 2:15).

¹⁵ *Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV)

? **Questions** — Stop and answer.

- 1) According to 2 Timothy 2:15 what three benefits can be derived from studying the word of God?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

- 2) Circle the correct answer(s). The words, “rightly dividing the word of truth,” teach us that we should study God’s Word so that we can:

(Note: More than one answer may be correct.)

- a) can show off how much biblical knowledge we have
- b) So that we know how to divide God’s word into chapters and verses
- c) So that we can correctly identify God’s truth from false teachings
- d) So we can divide up God’s word so everyone gets their fair share from the table of God word.
- e) So that we do not share false teachings.

 **Going Deeper** — Dig beneath the surface.

A Workman Needeth Not to be Asahmed (Part 1)

By studying God's Word, we demonstrate that we are committed not only to His work but also to Him. Consider a college student who desires to earn a degree in a particular field but refuses to apply himself to his studies. What if he would not do the work necessary to grow in his knowledge and abilities or meet the requirements needed to earn that degree? How could he expect to accomplish his goal without putting forth the effort required?

Or imagine a son who is expected to help his father in his father's business or trade, yet refuses to learn anything about it or to do any of the work. Instead, he simply chooses to lie around and reap the benefits of his parents' household while refusing to apply himself, help around the home, or contribute to the family business. Would this not make him nothing more than a lazy, spoiled child who brings disgrace upon his family's name, honor, home, and business?

Sadly, does this not resemble the Christian pew-sitter who comes to church week after week simply to be fed the Word of God and receive the benefits of being part of the church, yet refuses to take part in the work of his heavenly Father? Is this not an example of a defiant child who only takes but never desires to serve, never seeks to grow in spiritual maturity, and never desires to walk in obedience to his Father?

We were not saved merely to sit and receive, but to serve and work for the One who saved us. This is how God intended it from the beginning, when He placed man in the Garden of Eden and gave him work to do—to “dress it and to keep it.” God has called us to learn, grow, serve, and become faithful and productive members of His kingdom.

 **Personal Examination** — Search yourself.

Ask yourself, am I merely sitting and receiving from God, or am I actively learning, growing, serving, and working for the One who saved me?

 **Going Deeper** — Dig beneath the surface.

A Workman Needeth Not to be Asahmed (Part 2)

Let us take this illustration even further. And let us imagine that this father is a king and that he has appointed his son to serve as an ambassador of his kingdom. Yet the son refuses to learn the ways, laws, and proper conduct of the kingdom he represents. He does not understand his responsibilities, does not know how to speak on behalf of his king, and has no desire to become a productive member of the kingdom. How shameful and foolish would that be? His conduct would bring dishonor not only upon himself but also upon his father and the kingdom he represents.

Now let us personalize these illustrations. Did you know that we, as followers of Christ, are called to be ambassadors for God's kingdom? (Yes/No)

*Now, regardless of your answer, please open your King James Bible to **2 Corinthians 5:20** and fill in the blank. “Now then we are _____ for Christ...”*

*So, if we are, then in fact, ambassadors for Christ, should we not know something about the King we represent? Should we not know His Word, understand His ways, and seek to live according to His will? How could we faithfully represent Him **and rightly divide the word of truth** if we refuse to learn about Him?*

 Personal Examination — Search yourself.

After what we just discovered, ask yourself. Am I guilty of just merely sitting and receiving from God, or am I actively learning, growing, serving, and working for the One who saved me?

 Reflection — Look at yourself in light of what you've learned.

How can we properly share, defend, preserve or even properly teach our faith to new Christians if we don't know the truths written in our own _____.
(Bibles)

This is why studying God's Word is so important. You see a workman should understand his trade well enough to answer questions concerning the work he has been called to do. If he does not know his own trade, he will eventually be exposed as unprepared and may even cause the work entrusted to him to suffer. In the same way, our lack of spiritual knowledge can affect not only our own walk with God but also our ability to help others.

God has not called us to remain spiritually stagnant or to be satisfied with where we are today. He has called us to learn, grow, and mature. Just as a baby must eventually move beyond milk and begin eating solid food in order to grow, a Christian should move beyond spiritual infancy and grow toward spiritual maturity. But growth requires nourishment. Just as our physical bodies cannot grow strong without proper food, our spiritual lives cannot grow strong without being continually nourished by God and His Word (Matthew 4:4).

This is why we must be careful about what we allow to nourish our hearts and minds. As Christians, we should not be feeding ourselves on the things of this world while neglecting the things of God. Remember Daniel, who “purposed in his heart” that he would not defile himself with the heathen king’s food and wine (Daniel 1:8). Rather than compromise his convictions, Daniel chose to remain faithful to God. At the end of the appointed time, Daniel and his companions were found to be healthier and better nourished than those who had eaten the king’s food. More importantly, God gave them knowledge, wisdom, and understanding.

This same principle applies spiritually. What we continually feed upon will eventually affect what we become. If we constantly fill our hearts and minds with the values, desires, entertainment, and pleasures of this world while neglecting God’s Word, we should not be surprised when our spiritual lives become weak and emaciated. We cannot continually consume the things of the world and expect to remain spiritually healthy.

God has called us out of the world and commanded us to be separate from it. We are in this world, but we are not to become like the world. Therefore, if we want to grow in spiritual maturity, we must learn to hunger for the things of God, feed upon His Word, and leave behind those things that draw our hearts away from Him. What we choose to feed ourselves will ultimately influence what we become—and God has not called us to become like the world. He has called us to become more like Christ.

And this does not require a formal education, a Bible college degree, or a title. It requires a willingness to open the Bible God has given us, study His Word, learn His ways, and put what we learn into practice. A son should know his father, a workman should know his trade, and an ambassador should know the kingdom he represents. Likewise, those who belong to Christ should desire to know the Word of the God they serve so that they may faithfully represent Him, stand firm in their faith, and be prepared to give an answer when they are asked about the hope that is within them.

Secondly, it is important that we do more than simply read God's Word—we must allow it to become deeply rooted within us. Think of an engraver carefully engraving words into a stone or a fine piece of jewelry. Once those words have been engraved, they are no longer merely written upon the surface; they have been permanently etched into the material. In much the same way, God's Word should become deeply engraved upon the heart of a true believer, shaping our hearts, minds, spirits, and lives.

But how can we accomplish this? Through faithfully reading God's Word, meditating upon it, memorizing it, and putting it into practice. As we continually hide His Word within our hearts, it becomes more than something we have read—it becomes something that shapes how we think, how we live, and how we respond to the circumstances of life.

Thirdly, it is not enough for us simply to read or memorize God's Word. We must apply it to our lives and LIVE IT! God is not merely looking for people who know His Word; He desires people who will believe it, obey it, and allow it to transform the way they live. This is what separates the true Christian from the lukewarm—the very ones Jesus said He would spew out of His mouth (Revelation 3:16). It also demonstrates genuine love, commitment, and devotion to Him.

But before we can faithfully live out God's Word, we must first get His Word into us. We must read it, meditate upon it, and hide it within our hearts so that it becomes firmly established within us. This is what this study will focus on: learning how to take God's Word from the pages of Scripture, engrave it upon our hearts and minds, and ultimately allow it to shape the way we live.

¹⁸ *Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes.*

Deuteronomy 11:18 (KJV)

²¹ *Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart.*

Proverbs 4:21 (KJV)

²¹ *Bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck.*

Proverbs 6:21 (KJV)

O Reflection — *Look at yourself in light of what you've learned.*

Reflect upon this for a moment. Think about how good it feels when someone you know or love remembers the things that are important to you—the things you like, the things you dislike, the things that matter to your heart. How does that make you feel? If you are like me, it makes you feel loved, cared for, and important to the person with whom you are in some sort of relationship with, especially close relationships.

Why does that mean so much to us? Because their attention to those details demonstrates that they have been listening, that they care enough to remember, and that what matters to us matters to them. That is an important part of any genuine relationship.

Our relationship with God is no different in this regard. If we truly love Him, should we not care about the things that matter to Him? Should we not desire to know His ways, understand His desires, remember His Word, and live according to what He has told us? God desires our affection, our love, our praise, and our commitment to Him. Therefore, our attention to His Word should not be viewed merely as a religious duty, but as an expression of our love and devotion to the One who first loved us.

So, with all that in mind, let me ask you: Have you ever tried to memorize a Bible verse, only to realize the next day that you had completely forgotten it? Or perhaps you have read an entire chapter of Scripture and, when you finished, realized that you could hardly remember what you had just read—or even explain what the passage was saying.

Maybe you have even come across a Scripture that you did not understand, yet simply kept reading and moved on without taking the time to discover what it meant. If so, you are not alone. But this is a mentality we need to change. We must replace the speed and hurriedness

that are so common in our modern culture with diligence, patience, and understanding. Studying God's Word is not about seeing how quickly we can finish a chapter or how much Scripture we can get through in a certain amount of time. It is about slowing down long enough to read carefully, think deeply, understand what we are reading, and allow God's Word to take root within us.

Now, you may be thinking, "But we live in such busy and hectic times. How can I possibly find the time to give this kind of attention to God's Word?" Perhaps you have never thought about it this way, but the people of ancient times faced many of the same challenges when it came to finding time to devote themselves to God.

However, we must realize that the men and women of old who truly devoted themselves to God did not live easy or convenient lives. Many worked hard from the break of dawn until the setting of the sun. Their hands were weary from their labor, their bodies were exhausted, and their minds were occupied with the daily responsibilities of life. They did not have the conveniences nor the "devices" we have today to make life easier or to fill every quiet moment. Their roads were difficult, their responsibilities were many, and their days were often long.

Yet, despite all of this, they still found ways to seek God, meditate upon His Word, and devote themselves to Him. Their lives remind us that the issue is not always whether we have enough time. But whether are we willing to use that time to draw closer to God or to pursue the things of the world. If we say that we love God and desire to know Him, then we must be willing to give Him more than whatever time happens to be left over after everything else has received our attention.

So perhaps the question is not whether we have enough time, but what we choose to do with the time God has given us. If we truly understand that knowing God and His Word is essential to our relationship with Him, then we must be willing to give Him our attention—even when life is busy, difficult, and exhausting.

Now, our basic circumstances may be somewhat different today, but the struggle is not. We may have computers, appliances, vehicles, and countless conveniences designed to make life easier, yet we still come home from work exhausted. Perhaps we are not physically exhausted to the same degree as many people in generations past, but we can certainly be mentally, emotionally, and even physically drained by the pressures of the day. Deadlines, bosses, customers, coworkers, financial pressures, and the countless demands of everyday life can leave us feeling as though we have nothing left to give.

Yet let us still consider how different life was for many of the faithful men and women of old. Their workdays often began at the break of dawn and continued until sunset. Even after their day's labor was finished, there was still work to be done. Food had to be prepared and stored without modern appliances. Water had to be carried, sometimes over long distances.

Firewood had to be gathered and chopped for cooking and heating. There was no central air or heating to provide comfort after a long day's work. There were no microwaves to make cooking faster and easier, nor were there other conveniences to help simplify life that we often take for granted today. Even the most basic necessities of daily life, including personal hygiene and sanitation, required far more time and physical effort than they do for us today.

And yet, those who truly devoted themselves to God still made time for Him. They sought Him, meditated upon His Word, and gave Him their attention. Why? Because God was not merely another part of their lives; He was at the center of their lives. They loved and revered Him with their heart, soul, spirit, mind, and strength.

 **Reflection** — Look at yourself in light of what you've learned.

Perhaps all this gives us something important to consider. You see, the question is not simply, "Do I have enough time for God?" but, "How important is God to me?" We always seem to find time for the things we consider important. Therefore, if our relationship with God truly matters to us, then we must be willing to give Him our attention, even when we are busy, tired, and surrounded by the demands of life. The old adage, "actions speak louder than words," comes to mind here. What do your actions towards God indicate in your own life?

This is what we are going to explore in this study: how those who truly devoted themselves to God made Him a priority in their lives, how they gave His Word their attention, and how that devotion helped them draw closer to Him. More importantly, we will consider what we can learn from their examples and how we can cultivate that same kind of devotion in our own lives. Our goal is not simply to learn how others sought God, but to discover how we can develop a deeper love for Him, give greater attention to His Word, and become more devoted to Him in our own daily walk.

By the way, I might add that you do not need all the cutesy, modern tools and resources on the market today to accomplish learning, memorizing, and the meditating of Scripture. The only tools you need are the tools God has already given you. And these are the same tools that our ancient fathers used to memorize the scriptures. The same tools that faithful men and women of generations past used to learn and memorize the Scriptures with. And that is a Bible, and your heart, soul, spirit, and mind.

So what I'm saying is that we don't need anything elaborate or complicated. In fact, I encourage you to stay away from those things that focus on goals and not transformation. If we truly want to draw closer to God, what we need most is not some fancy or pretty tool that promises us the world but delivers us disappointment or discouragement. Rather, and not to be redundant, but all we need is a Bible and the tools that God has already given us (our eyes, our ears, our hearts, our souls, and our minds). What we don't need is another tool, but a disciplined mind, a right spirit, and a heart that seeks after God like a starving man seeks after his next morsel of food.

Again, these are the tools that God has already given us. And as we faithfully use them, if we choose to do so, we can begin to experience the transforming work God desires to accomplish in our lives. As we engrave His word upon our hearts, souls, spirits, and minds. His living word will become a living part of who we are.

So let us begin engraving God’s Word—not merely upon our minds and intellects, but deep within our hearts, souls, and spirits. Let us engrave His Word into our very being, using the very tools He has already given us. Let us allow His Word to become so deeply rooted within us that it shapes who we are and how we live.

By the way, I am not saying that every Bible study tool, resource, or product available today is bad or has no value. Some of these things can certainly be helpful. But we must be careful that we do not begin to believe that we need them in order to know God or understand His Word. Much of what is marketed to us as a “tool” can also become an income generator, carefully packaged with marketing gimmicks and designed to appeal to the flesh through eye candy and attractive presentations. The danger is that we can begin purchasing more and more things to help us study God’s Word while neglecting the simple discipline of actually opening the Bible, reading it, studying it, meditating upon it, and allowing it to take root within us. Remember the goal is true transformation not just meeting daily goals that have no lasting changes.

So what we truly need is not the latest Bible study gadget, the newest program, or another beautifully packaged resource. What we need is a heart that is right with the Lord and hungry for His Word.

And this brings us to an uncomfortable question: What is your heart truly hungry for? Is it hungry for God and His Word, or is it more hungry for the things of this world? The latest concert ticket? That new car? That special immodest outfit that you’re sure will turn heads or make you look so cool no one can stop talking about you? By the way, both are wrong motives. Or is it that newest and cutest, nifty, full of promises Bible study resource, that we put on a shelf after a week of failure and disappointment? We can find countless things that attract our attention, satisfy our desires, and consume our time and money. Yet God is the One who should be drawing us, and He is the One we should be seeking after—not the latest Bible study gadget or the next attractive resource promising to make studying His Word easier.

You may disagree with me or even argue with me concerning some of these things, and that is fine. But regardless of what you think about the products and resources available to us today, let me ask you a few questions:

 Personal Examination — Search yourself.

1. *Would you be as devoted to God's word if it was not for these man-made tools that feed the flesh with their "convenience and flashiness?"*
2. *Would you be as willing to find the time for God if it wasn't for the app or the fancy, pretty, printed page to write on, doodle on, or fill in the blanks?*
3. *Is it really the love of God's Word that you are seeking, or is it the newness, love, and flashiness of the tool? The tool that promises so much but still leaves us empty and without the ability to know, memorize, and grow—truly grow—in God's word.*
4. *Has the tool become a "toy," or a form of "entertainment" that holds our attention and that keeps us coming back to His table?*

 Reflection — Look at yourself in light of what you've learned.

If that is the case, then maybe our devotion is half and half. Half for God and half for the "tool." God wants all of us fully devoted to Him, not just half of us or less, but all of us. He desires our heart, soul, body, mind, and spirit. And please don't feel like I'm being mean to you; I just want you to take an honest look at these things. Because I too had to ask myself these questions as well.

Anyway, as I alluded to earlier, I hope you will find encouragement in this study. Knowing that our fathers of old, who wholeheartedly sought the Lord, faced the same distractions as we do today: fatigue, inner battles, and wandering thoughts. Therefore, I am hoping this study can encourage all of us by helping us to become more dedicated to the things of the Lord and less to the things of this world.

Regardless, our God-fearing forefathers managed to store the scriptures so deeply within themselves that the words shaped how they thought, spoke, and lived. Imagine ordinary men and women...farmers, seamstresses, pastors, mothers, and others—who even without technology, memorized entire chapters of the Bible and could recite them by heart. This truly

should be a goal of ours as well. Not to impress others, of course, but to saturate ourselves in the word of God that deeply.

 Goal — *Aiming to please Jesus*

We as Christians should strive to become so deeply rooted in God's Word that it shapes the way we think, speak, and live. We should strive to become more like Peter, whose life and association with Jesus had become so evident that even those around him recognized it. We should desire to live such transformed lives that our very speech gives us away:

⁷³ And after a while came unto him they that stood by, and said to Peter, Surely thou also art one of them; for thy speech bewrayeth thee.

****("Bewrayeth" means "gives you away.")*

Matthew 26:73 (KJV)

Again, they didn't memorize scripture to show off their knowledge, but to survive spiritually. And the way things are going as we progress deeper and deeper into end times, there may come a time that we need His word planted deeply within our hearts as it was with them. In addition to that, many of the newer Bible translations are becoming more corrupt with every new release. And if that is not enough, if the evil one gets his way, one day Bibles may become outlawed. All we have to do, if you live in the United States, is look to our neighbors to the north (Canada) to see what is happening there. And of course other places throughout the world as well.

Also consider this: what would have happened to Jesus if He did not have the word of God written on His heart when He was tempted in the wilderness? I mean even though **He was fully man and fully God**, the devil still thought it was a viable option to get Him to sin. Thus forfeiting His mission and fail. He banked on that, just like he had gotten Adam and Eve to sin. And that was by hoping Jesus did not know scripture well enough to resist the devil; thus

becoming deceived and failing to resist the overpowering temptations that he was offering Him.

After all the devil did succeed in deceiving and leading a rebellion of one-third of heavens angels against God, right? But Jesus was not a lazy Son that we spoke about back in the beginning of this lesson who refused to apply Himself to His Fathers business. Rather He did apply Himself and learned the word of God and grew to know God's word like the back of His hand (Luke 2:40-52) . What kind of son are you?

Also when Jesus was tempted by the devil in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-11). He was able to recite the correct meaning of God's word instead of the altered one that Satan tried to share with Him. By the way, is this not similar to what our newer translations are doing—ever so slightly changing the scriptures? We, like Jesus, need to have the truth engraved within us so we too can do the same thing. I personally have never seen a time like now where God's word is being watered down and perverted as it is today.

Our fathers of old believed that a mind saturated with the Word would become a mind guided by the spirit. And this is so true. Many folks today walk around blindly believing whatever they are told, and that is why we are seeing so many divisions in our churches and various false doctrines flourishing.

¹ *This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.*

² *For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,*

³ *Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,*

⁴ *Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;*

⁵ *Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.*

⁶ *For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts,*

⁷ *Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

2 Timothy 3:1-7 (KJV)

So as we continue on in this lesson series, Engraving God's Word on Our Heart and Mind, we will be looking at five principles that our fathers of old used to study and memorize scripture. Ancient simple practices that can still completely transform your spiritual life today better than any modern tool will ever be able to do.

ANSWERS

1) According to 2 Timothy 2:15 what three benefits that can be derived from studying the word of God?

1. To show ourselves approved unto God.
2. So that we do not become ashamed for for being incompetent in our work for God.
3. So that we can rightly divide the word of God and not bring about false teachings.

2) Circle the correct answer(s). The words, “rightly dividing the word of truth,” teach us that we should study God’s Word so that we can:

****The correct answers are C, E**