

## **Practical Advice for Grasping God's Word**

### ***Hear* God's Word. **Romans 10:17****

As we hear God's Word and see its perfection proven, our potential for greater faith in Christ increases. This is an important first step in coming to know God and continuing to pursue Him. Open yourself to the opportunity to hear God's Word through preaching, godly edification, or audio versions of the Bible.

### ***Read* God's Word. **Deuteronomy 17:19****

As we read God's Word we learn how to fear Him and love Him. Establish a daily Bible reading plan that works for you and stick with it. Be careful not to make it complicated.

### ***Study* God's Word. **II Timothy 2:15****

Studying is more than just reading; it is a process of digging into the scriptures and searching the depths of God. Study methods include a verse by verse approach, or searching the Bible to learn about various topics. Use a Greek or Hebrew lexicon and study the words in their original form. Commentaries and Christian books can be helpful, but it is important to learn to study the scriptures first and consult secondary sources second.

### ***Memorize* God's Word. **Psalms 119:11****

God instructs us to hide His Word in our hearts so that we may not sin against Him. Memorizing scripture richly enhances the other aspects of grasping God's Word. Determine a scripture memory plan you will be consistent with and commit to it. Memorizing scripture with others provides a great opportunity for accountability and growing in fellowship. The importance of this discipline cannot be emphasized enough.

### ***Meditate* on God's Word. **Psalms 1:2****

This helps move the scriptures from our minds to our hearts. Depend on the Word of God to daily sustain you as you depend on food to daily sustain your body. A healthy diet of the pure Word of God makes for a healthy spirit. It may be necessary to meditate on the same verse or passage for long lengths of time. Give God the opportunity to teach you through diligent meditation upon His word.

### ***Apply* God's Word. **James 1:22****

When we receive God's Word in the ways mentioned above, but fail to make application of it in our lives, we run the risk of self deception, believing that we are in good standing with God simply because we have a knowledge of scripture. When God's Word is not applied to our lives the first five steps to grasping God's Word become void. Allow God's Word to expose the sin in your heart. As you see your sinfulness, allow the Word of God to guide you, receiving freedom from it through confession, repentance and consequent obedience by grace through faith.