

Prioritizing God's Word Flows from Love for God

THEME: Out of our growing love for God we prioritize God's Word daily.

Questions to Ask Ourselves:

Do I love God?

Do I desire to know God?

Do I desire to please God?

Do I recognize things God does/allows throughout the day and think to thank Him?

Does my sin make me sad because I know it has grieved God?

Do I love God supremely?

Does my love for God surpass my love for every other person?

If faced with disobeying God or disappointing someone I love, which would I choose?

Does my love for God surpass my love for myself?

If faced with doing what God wants or doing what I want, which would I choose?

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do we view not prioritizing God's Word as an acceptable sin?
2. Why is it easy to think we love God more than we actually do?
3. Why can it sometimes be easier to disobey God than disappoint someone?
4. When is a time it is harder to love God more than yourself?
5. What is one thing you need to begin this week to grow your love for God?
6. What is one thing you need to begin this week in order to prioritize God's Word?

Application:

A) Practical ways to grow love for God

Jude 21a “keep yourselves in the love of God”

- Ask God to grow your love for Him; we cannot muster it up in our own power.
- Look up specific verses on God’s character; memorize one and thank God for that attribute.
 - How do you see that attribute of God manifested in your life?
 - What would life be like if God was not that way?
- Write down specific things God has done for you; thank Him for His care.
- Read a book about God (example: “The Knowledge of the Holy” by A. W. Tozer; “Knowing God” by J. I. Packer).
- Talk about God with others (at lunch after church/hanging out after Roots, at home, etc.).
- Talk to God more and more and more.
- Read and study God’s Word more (that is the way He has chosen to reveal Himself to us).

B) Practical ways to have regular time in God’s Word

- Ask God for help.
- Use timers/alarms to have an appointment with the Lord.
- Go somewhere quiet but well-lit.
- Sit up.
- Listen to (and sing if possible) a worship song or two before you open God’s Word to focus your heart on worshiping God (singing praise, reading His Word, obeying His Word are all worship).
- Read God’s Word out loud, especially if your mind keeps wandering.
- Journal a prayer based on the Scripture passage you just read.
- Write out a verse that stood out to you.
- Listen to God’s Word while you drive, clean your room, exercise, etc.
- Use the CBC read through or another reading plan.
- Use your time in the Word to prepare yourself for something coming up/someone you’re going to see.
- Use your time in the Word to address a specific sin you are struggling with.
- Use apps to help you memorize Scripture (example: Scripture Typer).
- Use Scripture songs to help you memorize Bible verses, even if it’s meant for kids.
- Read God’s Word out loud with someone else, then talk about it and pray together.
- Remember what a privilege it is to have God’s Word in our language and in our possession.
- Carlynn Fabarez's point about preparing our hearts for the day like we do our bodies.
- REMEMBER: on your heart, teach, talk, bind, write.