

DAILY WALK

Developing A Relationship With God

Study #4

ible Christianity is **not** a *CREED* (a set of beliefs), but a *PERSON* – the Lord Jesus Christ. When we received the

Savior, we received

Him as a real Person into our heart and life, and although there are many things to learn about the Lord and the Christian life, we must *never forget* there is a personal relationship to be enjoyed and maintained.

Personal relationships are maintained by

communication – by each



party sharing from his heart. The

Lesson Overview

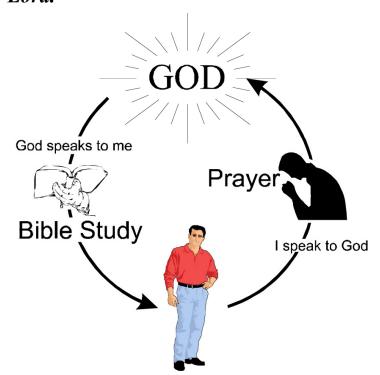
- I. What Are The Vital Requirements Of A Good Daily Walk?
- II. When Should I Walk With God?
- III. How Should I Walk With God?
- IV. How Do I Use The Quiet Time Section Of My Spiritual Journal?
- V. Some Rules For Bible Study
- VI. Some Teaching On Prayer
- VII. A Good Pattern In Prayer

deeper the sharing, the deeper and stronger will be the relationship. Every Christian needs a relationship with God. This is accomplished through a "Daily Walk" with his Lord, and it enables him to enjoy all that God has in store. This is also the battleground

where victory or defeat in your Christian life will be decided!!!

I. WHAT ARE THE VITAL REQUIREMENTS OF A GOOD DAILY WALK?

- A. Look up 2 Peter 3:18. God's will for you as a young Christian is to G__ _ into spiritual maturity (that is, in grace and knowledge of Christ).
- B. Just as there are a number of essential requirements for physical growth, there are some for spiritual growth. This study will deal with two vital things you need for a daily walk with the Lord.



II. WHEN SHOULD I WALK WITH GOD?

A. Our walk with the Lord needs to be constant.

© Christian Mentoring from A to Z

	 2. 	Look up Joshua 1:8. God's command was that His Word would not D from the mouth of God's people day and N See also <i>Deuteronomy 6:6-9</i> . Look up 1 Thessalonians 5:17. Here we are bid to pray without C
B.	is nece DEFI	theless, in our busy schedules of daily life, it essary for a Christian to set aside a NITE TIME EACH DAY for a devotional with the Lord.
	1.	Look up <i>Daniel 6:10</i> . How many times did Daniel pray each day?
	2.	Look up <i>Acts 17:11</i> . What did the Berean Christians do each day?
	3.	There is no prescribed time for your daily devotions – the important thing is that you set time aside.
	Having usual a I now j follow study a	g considered my family, my duties, and my activities in the light of God's clear command, promise the Lord that I will set aside the ing time each day for the purpose of Bible and prayer: (time each day =) d:)
	Signed	Datc

It may be early in the morning...
It may be after the family has left for the day...
It may be during an undisturbed lunch break...
It may be when the family has gone to bed...

YOU SET A TIME — THEN STICK WITH IT!!

III. HOW SHOULD I WALK WITH GOD?

Now that you have set aside a definite time for devotions, remember that good habits are hard to form. Ask the Lord to help you keep this one vital appointment. If you fail, don't quit, rather determine to start again.

A. Plan ahead for success by:

- 1. Getting a good night's rest so you wake up refreshed. You cannot stay up late at night and feel like having a good *Quiet Time* early the next morning.
- 2. Selecting a special *place* a place that is convenient, has a pleasant atmosphere, and has good lighting. Using the same location each day will help you build a successful pattern.
- 3. Approaching your *Quiet Time* with an attitude of expectancy. You can expect God to show you *activities* you either need to start or stop and *attitudes* you need either to develop or change. God will teach you much about Himself.

B. Discipline yourself to accomplish a daily Quiet Time.

Look up 1 Timoth	<i>iy 4:7</i> . God	l says we	are to	exercise
ourselves unto G				

The word "exercise" is translated from the Greek word *gumnazo*, from which we also get our words gymnasium and gymnastics. Our U.S.A. gymnastics team is a vivid example of disciplined training. In like manner a Christian is to discipline (train, exercise) himself to become godly.

IV. HOW DO I USE THE QUIET TIME SECTION OF MY SPIRITUAL JOURNAL?

A. Begin your Quiet Time with prayer.

This will be a brief prayer for understanding as you prepare to read God's Word. The Psalmist said, "Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law" (Psalm 119:18).

B. Read the Scriptures.

Use a Bible reading schedule. It will pace you to read through the entire Bible. If you don't, your Bible reading may become hitand-miss. A free Bible reading schedule is available for you on the tract rack at the church.

C. Record insights and make personal application.

Think about the meaning of what you read. Seek answers to such questions as:

<u>Who</u> is speaking? To whom is he speaking?
<u>What</u> is he speaking about? What is taking place?
<u>When</u> is this taking place?
<u>Where</u> is this taking place?
<u>Why</u> is this happening? Why is

Write out a scriptural insight from your reading. This may be something new you learned or something God impressed upon your heart. This insight doesn't need to come from the entire passage you read; it might just come from one verse or a phrase within a verse. There is space provided

he saying this?

to record this in your *Spiritual Journal*. Writing an insight down helps solidify it in your own thinking. The discipline of journaling is becoming well known in the Christian community. To help you make a personal application, put on your *spiritual eyeglasses* and ask these questions (they can be remembered by the acrostic SPECTACLES).

Did God reveal any . . .

S ins to confess?

P romises to claim?

E xamples to follow?

C ommands to obey?

T ruths to rejoice in?

A verse to memorize?

C hallenges to face?

L essons about God?

E rrors to avoid?

S upplications (prayers) to utter?

As you write out your application, make it personal, specific, and measurable. Write a brief prayer sentence from this insight.

D. Spend time in prayer.

Ask God to guide you throughout the day and to provide opportunities for you to apply what you have learned during your Quiet Time.

E. Review your memory verses.

Memorizing a verse from the Bible each week is an

excellent way
to grow
spiritually. At
the end of your
Quiet Time
review your
verses from
previous
weeks.

Philippians 4:6

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

Sample Quiet Times

At the end of this lesson (pages 14-17) are sample Quiet Times. It demonstrates how to fill out the Quiet Time section. This week you will read four Quiet Times. An insight is filled in, a personal application is made, and a brief prayer sentence is written. On the fifth, sixth, and seventh days you will do your own following the pattern given you.

V. SOME RULES FOR BIBLE STUDY.

Begin with a short prayer asking the Lord to teacyou. Look up and write out Psalm 119:18.				
This can be a model prayer for you.				

B. Take every word on its primary, literal meaning – unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

Remember, God means what He says and says what He means.

- "When the plain sense makes common sense, seek no other sense, or it all becomes nonsense."
- C. Mark your Bible. Underline key verses. Write down other references in the margins.

(If you do not wish to do this in your best Bible, purchase a cheaper one for study purposes.)



A Practical Tip

Not all pens are suitable for marking your Bible. The ink from some pens bleeds through the page – especially through thin pages found in the more expensive Bibles.

- D. Scripture always interprets Scripture (2 Corinthians 2:13) Always interpret an obscure passage in the light of a clear passage.
- E. You MUST resolve to obey the Word of God as you read it and study it (John 15:14).
- F. Treat the Bible as a personal letter from God. Read it expectantly as a lover reads a love letter (Jeremiah 31:3).
- G. When you cannot understand a passage of Scripture, remember you have pastors, teachers, and a discipler who care for you and who delight in teaching the Word of God. Call them, listen to them, and then check the Scriptures to see if what they say is so.

VI. SOME TEACHING ON PRAYER

In your daily quiet time with the Lord, you will want to pray. A full lesson on prayer will be presented in Study #16.

#16.						
A.	What is prayer?					
	1. Look up <i>Matthew 6:5-7</i> . In your own words, tell what prayer is not. Prayer is not					
	2. Look up <i>Matthew 7:7a</i> . The word "pray" simply means "to A" Prayer is asking – it is the cry of a Christian unto God, the request of a child to his or her Father.					
B .	To whom do we pray?					
	Look up <i>John 15:16; John 16:23; and Luke 11:2</i> .					
	To whom should we pray?					
	Note: Nowhere does the Bible teach us to repeat					
	Luke 11:2-4. It is not the Lord's prayer. (He never prayed it — it is a "model" prayer.)					
С.	In whose name do we pray?					
C.						
	Look up <i>John 14:14</i> and <i>John 16:24</i> . We pray in the name of J					
D.	What things may we ask for?					
	Matthew 6:11					
	James 1:5					
	2 Thessalonians 3:1					
	Acts 4:29					

VII. A GOOD PATTERN IN PRAYER

There are many other things we can pray for; the above are some examples. As a general rule include the following in your prayer:

A doration – Adore God (pray verses of adoration)*

C onfession – Confess your sins to God

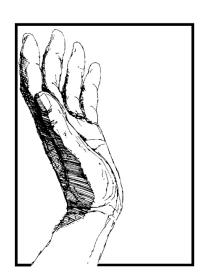
T hanksgiving – Thank God for His blessings

S upplication – Pray for (1) others and their needs, (2) yourself and your needs

* 1 Chronicles 29:11-14; Jeremiah 32:17-19; Revelation 4:11; Revelation 5:12-13

A. Adoration – Praising God for Who He is

(Psalm 34:1) "I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth."



A wonderful way to begin a time of prayer is by expressing praise to God! In a prayer of adoration, you express your deep feelings toward God in response to His love, wisdom, presence, power, knowledge, grace, holiness, greatness, and His other divine attributes. This kind of prayer will always be an occasion for joy. Remember that our adoration must be reserved for *God*, not for

projects, ministries, or works done in His name. When you are in His will, the desire to praise Him will come naturally. Memorize choice passages on praising God and use them as you adore Him (1 Chronicles 29:11-14; Exodus 15:11; Isaiah 6:3; Jeremiah 32:17-19; Revelation 4:11; 5:12-13).

B. Confession – Agreeing with God about your sin

(1 John 1:9) "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

When you trusted Jesus Christ as Savior, a special relationship was established between you and God. He became your heavenly Father, and you became His adopted child. That *relationship* is eternal. However, through our self-centered and sinful decisions in life we strain the quality of that relationship and fellowship with God is broken. It is *confession* that restores the privilege of that wonderful fellowship.

Both sin and righteousness are the result of personal decisions, so *confession* that is based upon genuine repentance will be proven by a *change* in your daily life. For this reason, your greatest spiritual victories will normally come as the result of this honest, cleansing kind of prayer. Your confession and repentance need to be *specific*.

C. Thanksgiving – Expressing gratitude to God for what He has done

(1 Thessalonians 5:18) "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

The average Christian

probably spends too much time asking and too little time thanking. Paul's admonition to "give thanks in

everything" reflects the maturity of his Christian life. He had been shipwrecked, beaten, hungry, severely criticized, and imprisoned – yet, he could honestly write those words. Why? Because his heart was filled with gratitude! He expressed it like this:

(Philippians 3:7-8) "But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. {8} Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ."

Prayer provides the opportunity to express our deepest emotions and feelings to God. How long has it been since your heart was overwhelmed with a sense of gratitude?

D. Supplication – Praying for the needs of others

(1 Timothy 2:1) "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;"

(1 Samuel 12:23) "Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and the

right way:"



When Christ enters our lives, it becomes our spontaneous desire to seek God's blessings for those around us. This is called "supplication" or "intercession." It would probably be safe to say that the most consistent intercessory praying which we do focuses on the spiritual needs of relatives, friends, and neighbors.

Many of those we intercede for are lost. Others are Christians living beneath the resources and privileges freely available to God's children. In each of these instances, intercessory prayer is a ministry of love. Through intercession, any Christian can be mightily used of God to affect the cause of evangelism worldwide. Whatever our physical condition, we can all be a part of God's powerful army of prayer.

E. Keep an on-going prayer list.

- 1. Keep a prayer list with your Bible on which to write down any definite requests you have special family needs, church needs, and the special requests other Christians may share with you.
- 2. Don't forget to write down the answers as they come.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH ASSIGNMENT

No new lesson.
For the next four days read a Quiet Time along with the
corresponding Bible passage, scriptural insight, application,
and prayer (pages 14-17).
On the fifth day continue your reading of the New Testament
and start writing a daily scriptural insight, application, and
prayer from your own Bible reading. Follow the example on
page 18. You will share them next week.
Take sermon notes using your Spiritual Journal and be
prepared to share highlights next week.
Prayerfully give a gospel tract to someone this week. If they
seem open to talk, simply pray silently for guidance and let the
conversation develop naturally.
Where would you like to meet for next week's session?
Be sure to bring your Bible, pen, D Lesson, and Spiritual
Journal.

Passage to Read: John 1:1-18

Observations: There is much in this rich passage to observe. But

first, from the introduction I learned:

Who is the writer? The Apostle John

When is he writing? AD 85-90 (approximately)

Who is he writing to? The book doesn't say. It must have been a circulating letter written in general to groups of Christians.

What kind of book in the New Testament is this? This book of John's is a gospel that means it is a "good news" account about the life and ministry of Jesus Christ.

As I read John 1:11 "He came unto his own, and his own received him not" I took note that Jesus Christ faced rejection. It is one thing to be rejected by strangers; it is quite another to be rejected by your own—family, friends.

Though His own rejected Him, others received Jesus Christ, John 1:12 "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:" I became a son of God by receiving Christ. This is the same as "believing on His name" as mentioned at the end of verse 12.

Scriptural Insight	Prayer & Application
--------------------	----------------------

When I face rejection I am in good	Lord, I rest in the confidence that
company. Jesus faced it too. God	I am accepted of You! I need to
never rejects anyone. "As many" or	accept others as You do.
whoever comes to Him finds	SP <u>E</u> CTACLES
acceptance.	Here is an example to follow.
	I will accept each person I meet today
	just as God would.

Passage to Read: John 1:19-51

Observations: As I read this passage I make several observations. My devotional comments all relate to one major observation—when people accepted Jesus Christ as their Messiah, they then brought their friends to Him. It seems to be the natural response to finding out such great news that their Savior has arrived.

When John the Baptist saw Jesus coming, he pointed others to Him (1:29, 35-36), so some of John's disciples started following Christ. Andrew followed Christ and immediately sought his brother, Simon, to introduce him to Jesus (1:40-42). Jesus found Philip and said, "Follow Me" (1:43). Philip sought out Nathanael and brought him to Christ (1:45-49). Good news always spreads, and we can be the "spreader" of that good news. We may face some opposition or resistance as we share with people our newfound faith in Christ. When Philip told Nathanael "we have found Him," Nathanael responded, "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" Here was an expression of doubt. Nathanael was saying, "I doubt this Jesus of Nazareth is the Messiah." Philip didn't shrink back at this initial obstacle; he just said "Come and see." Philip told Nathanael of Jesus, invited him to Jesus, and the rest was accomplished by Jesus Christ Himself.

Scriptural Insight Prayer & Application

People came to Jesus Christ and then	Lord, I have family and friends to
brought their family and friends to	bring to You. Would You please
Him.	make Yourself real to them.
	SP <u>E</u> CTACLES
	Here is an example to follow and a.
	challenge to face. I will tell my
	family and friends about Christ.

Passage to Read: John 2:12-25

Observations: As I read this passage I noted that Jesus, His mother, and His brothers were in Capernaum and traveled up to Jerusalem. A quick look at a map in the back of my Bible showed me that Capernaum is on the north shore of the Sea of Galilee, and Jerusalem is about 80 miles south. I use a study Bible that has a marginal note that the time of the Passover feast was March/April.

When Jesus arrived at the Temple in Jerusalem He was angered at the buying and selling going on in the Temple. The Temple had become a place of merchandising. Jesus made a whip and drove the merchants and their livestock from the house of worship. He poured out their money and overturned the tables. What a different picture I observed from the modern artist's portrait of a weak and effeminate looking Jesus. According to John 2:17, Jesus was consumed with zeal for God – what a man! What a God!

At this Passover feast many believed in Christ; others didn't. Jesus didn't need to ask what was in the heart of men for He is God and He knows all things—even what is in man's heart. It is an awesome thought to realize that Jesus knows my joys, my concerns, and my fears. John 2:24 says He knows *all* men, and 2:25 says He knows what is *in* man.

Scriptural Insight	Prayer & Application
Jesus was a strong person of character.	I trust in You, Lord, as I face each
He had a great zeal for God. He	day's dilemmas. You know my heart
knows what is going on in the hearts	and I rest in Your care.
of mankind. Jesus knows my joys and	SPEC <u>T</u> ACLES
fears. He knows the burdens I carry.	Here is a truth to rejoice in. Today
	I will share with God my joys! I will
	tell Him my fears.

Passage to Read: John 3:22-36

Observations: Jesus and His disciples have entered back into the land of Judea and are baptizing people. The map in the back of my Bible shows me that Judea is the territory in Israel in which the capital city of Jerusalem is located. John the Baptist was baptizing nearby. A question (dispute) between John's disciples and certain Jews arose. It appears as if these certain Jews were followers of Christ. As a result of this dispute these disciples come to John to inform him that Jesus is also baptizing and gathering quite a following. Perhaps they are worried about this newcomer, Jesus Christ, out distancing their beloved Rabbi, John. Their loyalties are given to John.

John the Baptist responds to these faithful disciples by informing them of the infinite superiority of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. In considering his relationship to Jesus, John gives us an important principle, "He must increase, but I must decrease" (3:30). Because of Who Jesus is, God the Son, He must always be considered before myself. Jesus must become more important in my life, and I must become less important in my life. I should think more about Him and less about myself. I should be more concerned about serving Him and less concerned about my own comforts.

Scriptural Insight	Prayer & Application

John the Baptist understood that his	Lord, help me to curb my selfish
role in life was not as important as	desires. I bow before You and desire
Jesus Christ's. Jesus Christ should	You to be exalted in my life.
continually be having a more elevated	SPECT <u>AC</u> LES
role in my life. I should be thinking	This is a good verse to memorize and
less of self and more of Him.	a challenge to live out. I will adopt
	verse 30 as a motto in life.

The **Daily Walk** lesson is the most important lesson for your Timothy to learn for personal spiritual growth. He will grow through the preaching and teaching at church, through Christian radio and literature, but *personal* spiritual growth comes from time spent alone with God in His Word. During this extra **session review the process of a daily Quiet Time**. Here are your instructions for this session:

Review his Spiritual Journal Quiet Times. You are examining
how he did in reading a passage of Scripture, writing a spiritual
insight and prayer, and making a personal application of that
insight.
Review your sermon notes together.
Ask him "Did you have a chance to give a gospel tract to
someone? Tell me about it."
Tell your Timothy about your experience handing out a gospel
tract, giving your testimony, or witnessing to someone this past
week.
Review the necessary parts of lesson D.
• •
PIRITUAL GROWTH ASSIGNMENT
Continue reading through the New Testament and doing your
own daily Quiet Times.
Take sermon notes using your Spiritual Journal.
During our next session we will do the E Lesson (Eternal
Word of God) together as we meet.

☐ Where would you like to meet for next week's session?

☐ Hand out some gospel tracts this week.

Discipler Report Back



met witho	n
/ and reviewed the contents of this	
esson. My comments regarding the discipleship tim	e
ogether are:	
	_
	_
	_
(make comments only if they are needed to help the Pastoral staff assist you in ministering to this person)	
Discipler's Name	

Please drop this off at the Hospitality Booth in the church foyer on the first service after conducting this session. This will help the Pastoral staff stay current with the status of our new converts and new members being discipled.

Thank You

Discipler Report Back

D	Extra

met withon
/ and reviewed the contents of this
esson. My comments regarding the discipleship time
ogether are:
(make comments only if they are needed to help the Pastoral staff assist you in ministering to this person)
Discipler's Name
•

Please drop this off at the Hospitality Booth in the church foyer on the first service after conducting this session. This will help the Pastoral staff stay current with the status of our new converts and new members being discipled.

Thank You