

Joseph Carty / General

Live Ministry / Worship; Methods of Bible Study / Job 23:12

Covering all aspects of personal bible study, devotions, prayer, family worship, and they study of Spirit of Prophecy.

Personal Devotions

- Be Like Jesus
- Jesus was
 - empowered by
 - devotional life
- Defined Who He Was
 - Study of Scripture
 - Power of Prayer

- Temptations
 - hardest moment
 - life of Jesus
 - answered with
 - scripture

Matthew 4:4 ESV

But he answered, “It is written,

“ ‘Man shall not live by bread alone,

but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ”

- Jesus knew scripture
 - like gut reaction.

- A Saying:

What you behold, you become.

- To Be Like Jesus

[2 Corinthians 3:18](#) (ESV)

And we all, ... beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another...

- As we behold God
 - we transformed
 - to His image
- We behold him
 - through devotions
- We behold world
 - by living here.
- How to behold Him?

Colossians 3:2 ESV

Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

- Through Devotions
 - Bible Study
 - Prayer

Bible Study

John 6:53 ESV

So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.

- Not literal
- How can we
 - do that today?
- Jesus explains

John 6:63 ESV

It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.

- His words
- We must eat
 - His words

- God's word has power

[Hebrews 4:12](#) (ESV)

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

- God's word
 - cuts into our hearts

[1 Peter 1:23](#) (ESV)

... you have been born again, ... through the living and abiding word of God;

- We need the Word
 - to empower us
 - to be born again

[John 8:31](#) (ESV)

... "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples,

- What does it mean
 - to be His disciple?

“Abide in the word”

- God knows this
- We know this...
- Then why don't we
 - spend more time
 - in the Word?

“Satan well knows that all whom he can lead to neglect prayer and the searching of the Scriptures, will be overcome by his attacks. Therefore he invents every possible device to engross the mind.” — ***The Great Controversy, p. 519***

- What is Satan's
 - primary weapon?
 - **Distraction**

- Distracts With
 - Work
 - School
 - Home Keeping
 - Positive Hobbies
 - exercise
 - band
 - sports
 - gymnastics
 - friends
 - after school programs
 - Phones/ TV/ Computer
 - media
- Most not evil
 - good things
 - necessary
 - healthy

- Business

Pathfinder Camp-out

Shared my testimony

Re-conversion

nothing revolutionary

Read the Bible!

- Word brings transformation

-

Prayer

- Be like Jesus
 - Jesus' Prayer Life?

Mark 1:35 ESV

And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed.

- Jesus knew
 - where His power
 - came from.
- Serving all day
 - selfless sacrifice
 - tireless ministry.
- How?
- Power of Prayer
 - plugging into
 - source of power.
- Many are confused
 - Santa Claus list
 - selfish
 - continual requests.
 - Formal

- Short
- Repetitive

“Prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend” (Steps to Christ, p. 93).

- Earnest
 - Open/Honest
 - Authentic
- Jesus Prayer
 - Garden of Gethsemane

Luke 22:42 ESV

saying, “Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.”

- Continuing:

Luke 22:44 ESV

And being in agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

- Seek God earnestly

- One hindrance
 - Sin
- Solution
 - Repentance

Family Worship

- Spiritual Unity
 - in the home.

“The cause of division and discord in families and in the church is separation from Christ. To come near to Christ is to come near to one another. The secret of true unity in the church and in the family is not diplomacy, not management, not a superhuman effort to overcome difficulties—though there will be much of this to do—but union with Christ” (The Adventist Home, p. 179).

- Father Abraham

[Genesis 18:19](#) (ESV)

For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD ...”

- Lead his family
 - household
 - **keep way of Lord**

Genesis 12:7-8 ESV

Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD.

- When moved
 - built an altar

Genesis 13:18 ESV

So Abram moved his tent and came and settled by the oaks of Mamre, which are at Hebron, and there he built an altar to the LORD.

- Family Devotions
 - called family altar
- House of prayer

- Problem?
 - once again...
 - Too busy

- Families
 - aren't home together
 - don't eat together
 - too busy

- Why
 - off chasing other dreams
 - letting other raise kids

- World is seeing
 - the results

- Parents too busy
 - personal devotions

- family devotions
- Teach children
 - devotions not priority...
-

Conclusion

- Christ-likeness
 - is somewhat attainable
 - in this life:

1 John 3:2 ESV

Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

Appeal

- Prioritize Devotions

- Bible Study
- Prayer
- Family Worship
- Be Like Jesus