

Rooted and Resilient

Psalm 1

"He who gathers in summer is a prudent son, but he who sleeps in harvest is a son who brings shame." Proverbs 10:5 (ESV)

"The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever you get, get insight." Proverbs 4:7 (ESV)

"Therefore, put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. But be doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves." James 1:21-22

Discipleship requires more than finding time to get into the Word of God. Discipleship is developing a lifestyle where the Word of God gets into us and takes hold of our hearts and lives.

I. Exposure Control: Who Are You Going to Give Access to Your Heart Drive?

Psalm 1:1-2

"Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law, he meditates day and night." Psalm 1:1-2

To be blessed requires a person to choose to consistently and deliberately delineate which voices/influences are going to daily shape your life!

- **Deliberate Exclusion:** Wisdom begins with a decision to no longer live according patterns, the propaganda, and pressures of a God-less culture.

"People across the UK are on track to spend an average of four years and eight months of their waking lives using their phones unintentionally...Those with the highest levels of unintentional phone use consistently report worse outcomes when it comes to poorer sleep, reduced focus and lower overall mental wellbeing." Virgin Media study

Intentionally eliminating exposure to ungodly counsel, lifestyles, and ridicule is an active responsibility for every disciple wanting to grow in wisdom.

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

Romans 12:2

- **Deep Immersion** - Wisdom begins with a decisive decision to make God’s Word the supreme daily driving force of your Life.

“But he answered, ‘It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” Matthew 4:4

The reason that a life of meditating on the Word of God is crucial is because the Bible is the grand narrative of God’s plan of redemption centered upon the death, burial, resurrection, and reign of the Lord Jesus Christ.

“But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ...” Philippians 3:7-8

“Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, ... But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 3:12-14

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.” Colossians 3:16

II. Character Development: What Kind of Person Will You Be Becoming? Psalm 1:3-4

“He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers. The wicked are not so, but are like the chaff that the wind drives away.” Psalm 1:3-4

If you want to deep and lasting and progressive transformation, then you must let the Word of God do that deep work in your life. The wise person chooses maturity, stability, and fruitfulness over relevance, popularity, and acceptance.

“In the Puritans’ communion with God, Jesus Christ was central, so Holy Scripture was supreme...in meditation the Puritan would seek to search and challenge his heart, stir his affections to hate sin and love righteousness, and encourage himself with God’s promises...The Puritans knew that Scripture is the unalterable rule of holiness, and never allowed themselves to forget it.” J.I. Packer

What kind of person are you becoming? What kind of person does the Lord call you to become?

III. Ultimate Considerations: What Do You Believe God Is Going to Do With You?

Psalm 1:5-6

“Therefore, the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous, for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.”

Psalm 1:5-6

“Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.” Isaiah 55:6-7

The eternal outcome of our lives is in the hands of a God who knows the heart of the person who humbly seeks Him and the stubborn heart of the person who chooses to linger in sin and self-indulgence.