

Stay Under the Weight of God's Word, Part I

When I first became a Christian, I received some advice that I've never forgotten: *study the Bible daily, not weakly*. The individual who challenged me to prioritize spending time with God also told me the secret of victorious Christian living. He told me, *"There's a huge difference between being casually acquainted with God's Word and dwelling in it on a regular, consistent basis"*. When you've pondered the heart of God through His Word, you're much better equipped to actually honor Him. The depth and duration of your dwelling determines the strength and richness of your spiritual life.

Consider the Apostle Paul's words from Colossians 3:16a - *"Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you..."*. When the word of Christ dwells richly in your heart & mind, you're tapped into God's wisdom. As we seek to walk in obedience to it, the truth takes root in us & over time transforms us. Not regularly spending time in God's word stagnates our spiritual growth. Some of the most recent research says less than 30% of Christians read their Bible daily. Think about how dangerous that is...on a daily basis, 70% of professing Christians are seeking answers in wrong places. When we have a problem, the first thing we should ask is, *"What does God's Word say about this?"* The more time we spend in His Word, the less likely we are to struggle with that question.

Without God's Word as a regular, consistent & active part of our lives, we run the risk of interpreting life from a limited viewpoint. We'll try to make sense of it based on our experiences, our feelings & our finite perspective. If we judge life by our despair, our pain or our circumstances, we will always live life skewed. We will evaluate everything by what we see, and this life is about so much more than what we can see. It's not coincidental that the Apostle Paul also said, *"For we walk by faith, not by sight."*

The biggest battle you'll face is your daily appointment with God. Keep it or every other battle becomes bigger. Put another way, you must be exchanging whispers with God before shouts with the world.

P2R (Point 2 Remember): *"A bible that's falling apart usually belongs to someone who isn't."* - Charles H. Spurgeon