

BIBLE INTAKE METHODS

The Navigator's *Word-Hand tool* is helpful for developing a balanced approach to take in the Bible and experience the transformation that God desires in our lives.

HEARING *Romans 10:17* Hearing the Word from godly pastors and teachers provides insight into others' study of the Scriptures as well as stimulating your own appetite for the Word.

READING *Revelation 1:3* Reading the Bible gives an overall picture of God's Word. Many people find it helpful to use a daily reading program which takes them systematically through the Bible.

STUDYING *Acts 17:11* Studying the Scriptures leads to personal discoveries of God's truths. Writing down these discoveries helps you organize and remember them.

MEMORIZING *Psalm 119:9, 11* Memorizing God's Word enables use of the Sword of the Spirit to overcome Satan and temptations...to have it readily available for witnessing or helping others with a "word in season."

MEDITATING *Psalm 1:2, 3* Meditation is the thumb of the Word Hand, for it is used in conjunction with each of the other methods. Only as you meditate on God's Word--thinking of its meaning and application in your life--will you discover its transforming power at work within you.

Look up each reference starting with "hearing the Word" and discuss the importance of each method to take in God's Word and how you practice each of these disciplines.

In which areas are you strong and where would you like to grow to be more consistent?

The reason we come away so cold from reading the Bible is, because we do not warm ourselves at the fire of meditation. In meditation, we pause and reflect over His words, which we have read, heard, or studied. We roll them over in our minds and let them ignite our hearts-- we "warm ourselves at the fire of meditation." We go deep in God's revelation, take it into our very souls, and as we are being changed by His truth, we respond to Him in prayer.

—David Mathis, *Habits of Grace*

Helpful Bible intake tools ...

- Bible Reading Plans - Oneyearbibleonline.com, YouVersion.com, Bible.is
- How to Study the Bible - *Living By The Book*, Howard Hendricks
- Scripture Memorization - *Topical Memory System*, The Navigators

As you incorporate this balanced approach to taking in the Word of God, you will soon find that you have a firm grasp on God's Word.

