

GEARING Up To Follow Jesus

A Personal Plan of Bible Study to Follow Jesus as His Disciple

(NOTE: We Can't Truly Understand Scripture *apart from God's Illumination! PRAY!!!*)

Open my eyes to see the wonderful truths in your instructions. Psalm 119:18

Teach me your ways, O Lord, that I may live according to your truth!

Grant me purity of heart, so that I may honor you. Psalm 86:11

- **GOD'S WORD** (Write down a brief passage or verse of Scripture you desire to study.)

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true

And to make us realize what is wrong in our lives.

It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.

God uses it to Prepare and Equip his people to do every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

- **EXAMINE** (Write down your insights from examining the text you are focusing upon.)

Read the Text Carefully! Then answer the following questions:

What Does it Say? Make Observations! What does it Mean? Make Interpretations

Discover the CONTEXT of the Passage! Look for KEY and/or REPEATED Words.

Answer the 6 Vital Questions: Who? What? When? Where? Why? How?

This process will answer the question: "WHAT is God saying in this text?"

- **APPLY** (Write down your personal responses to the following questions)

TO APPLY THE BIBLE MEANS: "to Make Use Of, to Put Into Action!" Make it Personal!

What is God Saying to ME? How Does This Work in My Life?

How should I Respond? This process answers the question, "SO What?"

PUT YOURSELF IN THE STORY!

The GOAL is to be Transformed by the Power of God's Word - Real Life Change!

Let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.

Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Romans 12:2

- **RESOLVE** (To Come to a Definite Decision, To Make up one's Mind to OBEY)

This means the **Steadfast Intention to Act Upon** what I've Read!

In other words, **"HOW will my life be DIFFERENT as a result of today's study?"**

This process answers the question: "NOW What?"

How will I live my life differently beginning today in light of studying this passage?

For example, in reference to **2 Timothy 3:16-17:**

**"LORD, I resolve to begin a daily practice of Equipping my Soul
by receiving Spiritual Nourishment from your Word."**

OUR GOAL IS PERSONAL OBEDIENCE RESULTING IN CHRISTLIKENESS!

Teach me, O Lord, to follow every one of your principles.

Give me understanding and I resolve to obey your instructions;

I resolve to put them into practice with all my heart. Psalm 119:33-34

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Sample G.E.A.R. Study

“THE PRIVILEGE OF BEING A PARTNER!”

GOD’S WORD:

*Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now. **Philippians 1:3-5***

EXAMINE:

As Paul launches this very personal letter to the church in Philippi, he makes clear to the church just how precious they are to him. Every time their faces come across his mind, he gives thanks to God for their lives and for the relationship he has with them through Christ. He also intercedes for them and any needs they may have. The thread that runs through Paul’s reflection of these beloved people is JOY! The reason Paul is so filled with joy is due to the sacred privilege of being a partner with the Philippian Church in spreading the Good News about Jesus. Paul notes that these partners have been actively sharing their faith from the first time they heard and received it!

APPLY:

Today was another reminder and wake-up call to give thanks to God when His children come across my radar. I need to be intentionally praying for God’s best and His character to grow in and through their lives. I also need to be reminding our church family of the sacred privilege God has given to us of partnering with one another in spreading the Good News about Jesus.

RESOLVE:

Father, I resolve to be filled with a heart of gratitude today for my brothers and sisters in Christ and to pray for them to grasp the joy of partnering together in sharing the Good News of Jesus!