

## Accelerating Our Spiritual Growth, Part 5

October 11, 2009 Pastor Bill Bump

Feeding ourselves from God's Word:

### 1. STEP 1: PRAY

Psalm 119:18 (NIV) Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.

### 2. STEP 2: MEDITATION

Meditation simply means serious thinking.

II Timothy 2:7 (NIV) Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this.

Joshua 1:8 (NLT) Study this Book of the Law continually. Meditate on it day and night so you may be sure to obey all that is written in it. Only then will you succeed.

Meditation of Scripture leads to success.

#### FIVE WAYS TO MEDITATE ON A PASSAGE OF SCRIPTURE:

- A. Picture it - visualize the scene in your mind
- B. Paraphrase it - rewrite it in your own words
- C. Personalize it - put your name in the verse
- D. Probe it - ask a lot of questions

Questions to ask:

- Is there sin to confess?
- Is there a promise to claim?
- Is there an attitude to change?
- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there an example to follow?
- Is there a prayer to pray?
- Is there an error to avoid?
- Is there a truth to believe?
- Is there something to thank God for?

E. Pray it - Pray the verse back to God

3. STEP 3: APPLICATION

John 13:17 (NIV) “Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.”

James 1:22 (NIV) Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

Application is when I take the truth of God and I apply it in a way that is personal and practical.

4. STEP 4: MEMORIZATION

Colossians 3:16 (LB) Remember what Christ taught and let his words enrich your lives and make you wise...

Psalm 119:11 (NIV) I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

We invite you to look over the verses in your sermon notes this week and ask and answer the following three questions (You are encouraged to get a notebook to record your thoughts.):

1. What does the verse say?
2. What does the verse mean?
3. What does the verse mean to me personally?