

Learn the Word.
Love the Word.
Live the Word.



SMALL GROUP GUIDE CONTINUED...

PRACTICE “PARAPHRASE IT!”

As you read each day, practice the “Paraphrase It!” method using the seven recommended verses below from James. Be sure to use a notebook or journal to write down your thoughts and observations about how each verse applies to your life.

Day 15 JAMES 1:2-4

Day 16 JAMES 1:19-20

Day 17 JAMES 1:22-25

Day 18 JAMES 2:17-18

Day 19 JAMES 3:13

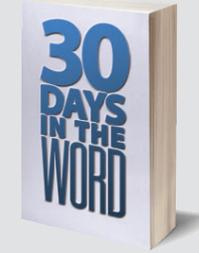
Day 20 JAMES 4:10

Day 21 JAMES 5:19-20

PRAYER

Finish your quiet time by talking to God about what He said to you in His Word and through your personal time alone with Him. Ask God to continue to protect your quiet time and keep you from problems of discipline and dry spells.

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Session Three: Paraphrase It!

DAILY BIBLE STUDY FOR INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, AND SMALL GROUPS

“It may feel like you didn’t get a whole lot out of your quiet time on a particular day, but remember it’s not only important what you ‘get’ but that you ‘give’ devotion to God.”

- Cal Rychener

DAILY LIVING ON PURPOSE—FOR EVERYONE

This week in your daily quiet time, read the book of James. It’s only five chapters long. We hope you are discovering how rich your quiet time can be as you go deeper in your personal Bible meditation.

Recommended Reading Plan

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 15: James 1:1-18 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 19: James 4: 1-16 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 16: James 1:19-2:12 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 20: James 5: 1-12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 17: James 2:13-26 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 21: James 5: 13-19 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 18: James 3: 1-18 | |

As you become more consistent in your quiet time and Bible study, you may encounter difficulties. As we know God’s Word more, be aware that the enemy may fight you and try to take you off track. But there is GOOD NEWS, our God is bigger and stronger so claim the promises of 2Timothy 4:18 where it says the Lord will rescue us from every evil attack!

Small Group Participation Note

Make sure to encourage each other as you are spending more time in the Word and in quiet time with the Lord. Also, celebrate all the ways God is more present every day in your life.



SMALL GROUP GUIDE

Leaders note: Be sure to review the Small Group Guidelines in the Host Guide Book.

LOOKING AHEAD

- How are you doing in your daily quiet time? Are you feeling discouraged or encouraged?
- Would anyone like to share an insight you have discovered in Colossians by using the “Probe It!” (D.A.N.C.E.S.T.E.P.S.) method this past week?

MEMORY VERSE

Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

— JAMES 1:22 (NIV)

VIDEO LESSON OUTLINE

Watch the video lesson and take notes on this outline. Refer back to the outline during your group discussion.

Problems of Discipline “Battle of the Blankets”

- Go to bed _____.
- Get up _____.
- Be aware of _____.
- Go to bed with _____ on your mind. (Psalm 1:2)

Problems of Dry Spells “Battle of the Blahs”

Don’t judge your quiet times by your *emotions*.

- _____.
- Your _____ condition.
- Trying to _____ in a hurry.
- Being in a _____.
- Not sharing your _____ with others.

Whatever you do ... DON'T GIVE UP!

THE “PARAPHRASE IT!” METHOD OF BIBLE MEDITATION

Ultimately in this method, you want to be able to explain the entire verse or passage in your own words. It’s not just enough to know what the Bible says; you also need to know what the Bible means. If you can’t put it in your own words, then you don’t truly understand what it is saying.

- Read the _____ or passage over and over.
- Capture the timeless _____.
- Put it into your own _____.
- Search your heart to see how it _____ to you.
- Talk to _____ about it. (Matthew 5:29)

GROUP DISCOVERY

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” - Galatians 6:9 (NIV)

ACTIVITY: As a group, take a look at Galatians 6:9 and practice the “Paraphrase It!” method. Think of it as a two-part conversation. Say back to God what you heard Him say to you but in your own words. Then respond to Him with your thoughts and prayers, based on the verse you just read.

QUESTIONS:

- How does this passage apply to your life and what will you do about it?
- How willing are you to let the Word of God do its work in you? Is this something you fear or look forward to?

PRAYER DIRECTION

If you are struggling in your quiet time, ask the group to pray for you. Pray for each other’s prayer requests. Pray about what God has revealed to you as your group did the Galatians 6:9 “Paraphrase It!” assignment.