

## CHRISTIANS NEED DEVOTION TIME

**Psalm 119:11**

(Not entirely original with me)

**Introduction:** Life is filled with a lot of things that demand one's time, interest and energy such as a family, one's job, friends, and outside activities and so often the day is over and it seems as if it only began. Life rushes by so fast and if one is not watchful and in charge of his/her time, the world and Satan will see to it that there is little if any time left for the Christian to spend with God. Therefore one must make time to spend with the Lord and not just once in a while will do, every Christian needs to spend time with the Lord every day as well as the weekly time such as Church activities. David (Psalms), Paul and others through the centuries learned that one must spend time every day with the Lord in order to be close to Him and avoid things which would cause one to sin. Christians need to make time for the Lord every day with a daily devotion and then a regular weekly time of devotion with others.

### I. CHRISTIANS NEED TO HAVE A DEVOTION TIME EVERY DAY

1. As human beings, Christians are also weak, frail, sinful, prone to wander in selfishness and have a sinful nature which will dominate and control unless that power is broken by the power of Jesus Christ..."Prone to wander, Lord I feel it, Prone to leave the Lord I love..." **Isaiah 53:6**
  - God's Word warns the Christian that he/she lives in an evil day and that the Devil walks about as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour, doing his best to divide God's people from God.- **Ephesians 5:15-16; 1 Peter 5:8**
  - In these last days God's Word warns believers that as things will grow worse as evil and demonic forces will be on the increase making things more difficult for believers.  
**1 Timothy 4:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 5:3; Philippians 3:17-19; Romans 13:11-14**
2. Jesus is the model, the example of one having daily devotion time.
  - **Hebrews 12:2; Luke 5:15-16; 1 John 2:6; John 14:10.**
3. The goal of daily devotion is to hear the voice of God speaking through His Word, therefore one needs to read, study, hear, meditate, and learn the Scriptures. **Acts 17:11; Hebrews 3:13; Proverbs 8:32-36; Psalm 119:2.**
4. One needs to meditate on God's Word. **Psalm 1:2; 119:99; Joshua 1:8.**
  - Meditating upon God's Word means to ponder, to chew (as a cow might chew its cud), spend thinking about what God's Word. **Joshua 1:8; Psalm 1:2; James 1:22-25; Isaiah 55:8-9; Psalm 119:15; Philippians 4:8-9**
  - Meditating can produce rest, removal of tension, give greater insights into God, biblical truths, one's self, true needs.
  - To meditate one must be in the Word of God, desire and long to know God's Word, be prepared for an inner battle for the human nature will war against the indwelling Holy Spirit.
5. One needs to memorize God's Word. **Proverbs 6:20-22; Exodus 13:16; Deuteronomy 6:8; 2 Corinthians 10:4-5; Proverbs 3:21-22; 4:21; 6:20-23**
6. One needs to spend time in prayer. **Acts 6:1-4**
  - To the disciples, prayer was more than just an occasional thing, it was a moment-by-moment attitude, of heart and mind. They had watched Jesus many times in prayer and they had learned from Him how important prayer was.
  - Why don't Christians pray as they should? Is prayer only a fire extinguisher, to be used only in an emergency?

## II. CHRISTIANS NEED TO HAVE A WEEKLY TIME OF DEVOTION WITH OTHERS

1. *Nehemiah 8:1-12*
2. Throughout the Old Testament God's people are seen gathering together to hear the Word of the Lord read, explained and proclaimed, sometimes lasting for several hours.
3. Assembling together for fellowship with others in prayer, praise, and study is absolutely essential to godly living and spiritual change. *Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 15:33; 6:9-12; Hebrews 10:24-25*
4. Christians need to come together weekly to encourage and comfort one another.  
*1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*
5. One of the main reasons for joining other Christians weekly in a time of devotion is to hear the Word of God taught and expounded which comforts, exhorts, and encourages one's walk with the Lord. The exposition of the Word, along with the personal encouragement of one another becomes the means of exhortation and comfort which promotes love and good deeds.

## III. DAILY AND WEEKLY DEVOTION TIME GIVES GOD OPPORTUNITIES TO PROTECT

1. It is easy to misplace one's confidence, such as in people, possessions, good health, power, position, wealth, personal abilities, training, etc. The danger of one's physical blessings can easily numb him/her to his/her real needs. *Deuteronomy 6:10-12; 1 Timothy 6:17-19; Luke 12:15-18*
2. To not have a daily and weekly devotion time is to misuse a divine privilege. Time spent with the Lord brings God's blessings and to not have such a time is to miss out on things God has for one.  
- *1 Corinthians 10:12*
3. To not have a daily and weekly devotion time is to not have priorities in order. What a person values most determines what he/she does with his/her life and it is so easy to be fooled into devoting one's self to value earthly and human things more than Godly things.  
- Many Christians speak of being saved, belonging to God's Family but deny it by their daily living and ways of business. They have no daily or weekly devotion time with God.
4. To not have a daily and weekly devotion time is to miss out on so much that God has to give.  
- A Christian just cannot live, experience or impart to others that which he/she does not really possess him/herself, such as a close relationship and walk with the Lord Jesus without having daily and weekly times with Him. *Matthew 23:1-5; Isaiah 29:13*

## CONCLUSION:

1. It is a wonderful thing to be saved, to be made right with the heavenly Father, to be given eternal life, to become a child of God, to have a home in heaven awaiting, to be indwelt with the Holy Spirit, all that is indeed wonderful and what Jesus Christ came to do for mankind, but it doesn't end there for the believer, the Christian, there is a daily walk, a daily time that needs to be spent with the Lord.
2. Christians need to have a daily time in God's Word, in prayer, in fellowship with the Lord and then to have a weekly time together with other believers sharing and encouraging each other.
3. "Take time to be holy, Speak oft with thy Lord, Abide in Him always, And feed on His Word, Take time to be Holy, The world rushes on; Much time spent in secret, With Jesus alone; Take time to be holy, Let Him be thy Guide; and run not before Him, whatever be tide."