

**FAMILY LIFE CHURCH OF THE VALLEY
RIVERSIDE COUNTY**

TITLE: 40 DAYS IN THE WORD

SESSION ONE: PRONOUNCE IT!

MEMORY VERSE: LET THE WORD OF CHRIST DWELL IN YOU RICHLY.

COLOSSIANS 3:16 (NIV)

Pronounce it!

The ultimate purpose of the Bible is not to inform us, it is to transform us. God doesn't want us to just be hearers of the word, he wants us to be doers of the Word – living gospels – sharing the good news of Jesus Christ not only in our words, but in our lives.

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work 2 Timothy 3:16 (NIV)

The ultimate purpose of the Bible is to_____.

FIVE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF BIBLE STUDY

- **Ask the**_____.
- **Write down**_____.
- **Don't just interpret it,** _____.

I only believe the parts of the Bible that_____.

The real problem for most of us is not with interpreting difficult passages, but with obeying the passages we do understand.

- **Study it**_____.
- **Read it**_____.

You can summarize the devotional study method in one word:

_____.

“Do not let this book of the law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.”

Joshua 1:8 (NIV)

Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long.

Psalm 119:97 (NIV)

40 DAYS IN THE WORD SESSION ONE (cont.)

My eyes stay open through the watches of the night, that I may meditate on your promises.
Psalm 119:148 (NIV)

Biblical meditation is essentially thought digestion. Another word for biblical meditation is “rumination.” Rumination is what a cow does when it chews its cud. Scriptural meditation is reading a passage over and over again, then thinking about it and concentrating on it in different ways until you have digested its meaning.

The “Pronounce it!” METHOD OF BIBLE MEDITATION

Read the verse over and over again, but emphasize each word in the verse one at a time. After each word, stop and write down your thoughts, even if it’s just a word or two.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.

Colossians 3:16 (NIV)

LET the word of Christ dwell in you richly

Let the **WORD** of Christ dwell in you richly.

Let the word of **CHRIST** dwell in you richly.

Let the word of Christ **DWELL** in you richly.

Let the word of Christ dwell **IN** you richly.

Let the word of Christ dwell in **YOU** richly.

40 DAYS IN THE WORD SESSION ONE (cont.)

Let the word of Christ dwell in you **RICHLY**.

Now look at your life through the lens of this verse. How does this truth apply to your life today? What are going to do about it? After you have thought about an application, write it down. Then finish your time by talking to God about what he said to you in his Word.

Your time in daily devotions is not just for your benefit. It's also for the benefit of others.

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS:

1. As a group, practice the pronounce it! Method of the Bible meditation using the first phrase of Colossians 3:25 (NIV).

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

Colossians 3:15 (NIV)

2. Which word has the most meaning for you? Why did you choose that word?

3. How does this verse apply to your life right now? What do you need to do or stop doing in order to more fully experience the rulership of Christ's peace?

4. Your time in daily devotions is not just for your benefit. It's also for the benefit of others. With whom do you need to share the lessons you just learned about the peace of Christ?
