



Better TOGETHER



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Valley Church

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Together in the Word

Acts 2:42-47

The Importance of God's Word

After Jesus ascended into heaven, the Holy Spirit filled the disciples, and the church began to grow by the thousands. What did the people do? "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer" (Acts 2:42).

Meditation

When we meditate, we think about God's Word. We dwell on it, and then as opportunities arise, we preach it to ourselves. We inject it into our thoughts as we make decisions, as we admonish and instruct our souls.

This is the essence of meditation. It is evoking the truth, embracing it and embedding it in our lives. It is intentionally focusing on recalling God's truth that it might resound in our hearts.

The Word of God strengthens us when facing fear:

1. The Word of God _____ Our Mind

Proverbs 3:5-6 -- "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths."

2. The Word of God _____ Our Mind

2 Corinthians 11:3 -- "Your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ."

Mark 4:24 -- "And He said to them, be careful what you're hearing. The measure [of thought and study] you give [to the truth you hear] will be the measure [of virtue and knowledge] that comes back to you—and more [besides] will be given to you who hear."

3. The Word of God _____ Our Mind

Philippians 4:8 -- "Fix (or connect) your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise."

QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION:

Personal Life:

1. As a child, how would you respond when someone would read the Bible? Did you like it? Did you understand it? Did you find it very boring?

Ponderings:

2. What did the 3,000 converts end up doing (Acts 2:42-47)?
3. How would you describe the atmosphere when these first Christians got together?
4. What made the early church so appealing to others?
5. When you hear the word "meditation", what comes to your mind? How would you define "meditation"?
6. What is the difference between Biblical mediation and secular meditation?
7. How does God's Word impact our minds, especially when we are experiencing fear?

Promptings:

8. In what ways have you personally experienced God's Word protecting your mind, directing your mind, and connecting your mind to God and others?
9. In what way have you been spiritually impacted by the current covid19 epidemic? How has this Easter season helped you to get things back into focus?
10. How will a Gospel focus affect our current journey? How can the Word of God change our life and outlook? In what practical ways can we focus on Scripture and not the secondary issues?
11. What needs do you have right now? How can the group pray for you?