JESUS & SCRIPTURE

When (Jesus) was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast... While his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. ...After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. Luke 2:43, 46-47

...Jesus went up into the temple and began to teach. The Jews were astonished at it, saying, “How does this man have such learning, when he has never been taught?” John 7:14b-15 NRSV

Jesus said to them, “Haven’t you read in the Scriptures...?” Matthew 12:3 NLT

(See the same phrase in Matthew 12:5, 19:4, 21:16, 21:42, 22:31)

How to Experience the Transformational Power of Scripture

1. See ____________________________________________

Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” Matthew 4:4

• Pray: __________________________________________

2. Set ____________________________________________

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

• Pray: __________________________________________

3. Stay __________________________________________

For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Hebrews 4:12

“Heavenly Father, this is the word of God, which I trust and love. I want to let your word dwell in my heart.” Colossians 3:16

• Pray: __________________________________________

4. Soak __________________________________________

Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you... Colossians 3:16

Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. Psalm 1:1-2

• Pray: __________________________________________

5. Seek __________________________________________

“You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me!” John 5:39 NLT

• Pray: __________________________________________

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read Psalm 1:1-3. What is most compelling to you when it comes to meditating on and memorizing scripture? What are your biggest obstacles?

2. Write down the value you see in studying and memorizing scripture. What would you honestly say is your appetite for scripture right now? Pray today that no matter where you are right now, your appetite for scripture would grow.

3. How are you making meditating on scripture and memorizing it a regular part of your life? What are some realistic ways you can grow in that area?

4. Read Colossians 3:16. How do you think "dwelling" in scripture would impact you and how you live daily life? How have you seen scripture transform your thinking in the past? Where would you like to see that happen again?