

BUILDING MY LIFE ON THE BIBLE

40 Days in the Word
Rick Warren

HOW DO I BUILD MY LIFE ON THE BIBLE?

James 1:19-25

1.

“Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ.” Romans 10:17 (NIV)

“Everyone should be QUICK TO LISTEN, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly ACCEPT THE WORD planted in you, which can save you.”

James 1:19-21 (NIV)

FOR “GOOD RECEPTION” I NEED TO BE . . .

- _____
“Be quick to listen and slow to speak”
- _____
“and slow to become angry”
- _____
“get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent”
- _____
“humbly accept the Word planted in you which can save you.”

2.

“Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the Word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like! But the man who LOOKS INTENTLY into the perfect law that gives freedom, and CONTINUES to do this, NOT FORGETTING what he has heard, but DOING IT—he will be blessed in what he does.” James 1:22-25 (NIV)

Get a Bible Reading Plan

3.

Bible “**STUDY**” requires:

- writing down what I learn
- talking about what I learn

“You search the Scriptures because you believe they give you eternal life. And the Scriptures point to me!” John 5:39 (NLT)

“The people of Berea were more open-minded than those in Thessalonica, and they listened eagerly to Paul's message. They searched the Scriptures day after day to check up on Paul and Silas, to see if they were really teaching the truth.”

Acts 17:11 (NLT)

4.

“The man who looks intently into the perfect law . . . and CONTINUES to do this, NOT FORGETTING what he has heard but doing it, he will be blessed in what he does.” James 1:25 (NIV)

THE BIBLE TERM FOR REMEMBERING & REVIEWING GOD'S WORD IS MEDITATION

“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)

5.

“Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. DO what it says!”
James 1:22 (NIV)

“Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. BUT everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.” Matthew 7:24-27 (NIV)

Next Step

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WHY CAN I TRUST THE BIBLE?

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

"All of your commands can be trusted." Psalm 119:86 (NCV)

I CAN TRUST THE BIBLE BECAUSE . . .

1. _____
"The Word of the Lord is right and true." Psalm 33:4 (NIV)
2. _____
"Every word of God is flawless." Proverbs 30:5 (NIV)
"The words of the Lord are flawless, like silver refined in a furnace of clay and purified seven times!" Psalm 12:6 (NIV)
3. _____
"No prophecy ever originated from humans. Instead, it was given by the Holy Spirit as humans spoke under God's direction." 2 Peter 1:21 (GW)
"But this is all happening to fulfill the words of the prophets as recorded in the Scriptures." Matthew 26:56 (NLT)
"The angel said to me, 'These words are trustworthy and true. The Lord . . . sent his angel to show his servants the things that must soon take place.'"
Revelation 22:6 (NIV)
4. _____
"Beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, Jesus explained to them what was said in ALL the Scriptures concerning himself." Luke 24:27 (NIV)
"You search the Scriptures because you believe they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me!" John 5:39 (NLT)

5. _____
Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen will disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished!" Matthew 5:18 (NIV)
6. _____
"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away." Matthew 24:35 (NIV)
"The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever." 1 Peter 1:24-25 (NIV)
7. _____
Jesus said, "If you continue in my Word, then you are my disciples indeed; and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free!" John 8:31-32 (KJV)

THE BIG QUESTION: WHAT WILL BE THE AUTHORITY FOR MY LIFE?

"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." Romans 12:2 (NIV)

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly!" Colossians 3:16 (NIV)

Next Steps

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HOW THE BIBLE CHANGES US

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Jesus: "The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life!" John 6:63 (NIV)

"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 (NIV)

HOW DOES GOD'S WORD CHANGE ME?

1. _____
"He chose to give us birth through the word of truth" James 1:18 (NIV)

"You have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring Word of God." 1 Peter 1:23 (NIV)
2. _____
"Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the Word." Ephesians 5:25-26 (NIV)

"You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you."
John 15:3 (NIV)
3. _____
"Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ." Romans 10:17 (NIV)
4. _____
"I commit you to God and to the Word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified." Acts 20:32 (NIV)

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

5. _____
"Understanding your Word brings light to the minds of ordinary people."
Psalm 119:130 (CEV)

"Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path." Psalm 119:105 (NIV)
6. _____
"Everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope."
Romans 15:4 (NIV)

"You're my place of quiet retreat; I wait for your Word to renew me."
Psalm 119:114 (MSG)
7. _____
"If you continue in my Word, then you are truly disciples of mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free!" John 8:31-32 (NAS)

HOW DO I GAIN THESE BENEFITS?

1. _____
Jesus: "Your trouble is that you don't know the Scriptures" Mark 12:24 (TLB)
2. _____
"When you received the Word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the Word of God, which is at work in you who believe." 1 Thessalonians 2:13 (NIV)
3. _____
"Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you DO them."
John 13:17 (NIV)

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SEEING WHAT GOD WANTS ME TO SEE

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ILLUMINATION: Letting the Holy Spirit show me the meaning of God's Word and how it applies to my life

"The Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you." John 14:26

"He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth." John 14:17 (NLT)

"the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you." John 16:15

"I ask the glorious Father and God of our Lord Jesus Christ to give you his Spirit. The Spirit will make you wise and let you understand what it means to know God."
Ephesians 1:17 (CEV)

"I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe."

Ephesians 1:18-19

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN GOD OPENS MY EYES?

1. _____
"Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. So she went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink." Genesis 21:19

2. _____
"Then the Lord opened Balaam's eyes, and he saw the angel of the Lord standing in the road with his sword drawn. So he bowed low and fell facedown." Numbers 22:31

3. _____
"Elisha prayed, 'O Lord, open his eyes so he may see.' Then the Lord opened the servant's eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha!" 2 Kings 6:17

4. _____

"Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight." Luke 24:31

PREPARING TO SEE WHAT GOD WANTS ME TO SEE

1. _____
"The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned." 1 Corinthians 2:14

Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." John 3:3

2. _____
"Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your Law!" Psalm 119:18
"If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt." James 1:5-6

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." Matthew 7:7

"I WILL instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I WILL counsel you and watch over you." Psalm 32:8

3. _____
"He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way." Psalm 25:9
"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:5-6

4. _____
"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God." Matthew 5:8
"Whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness; he does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded him." 1 John 2:11

5. _____
"Teach me, O Lord, to follow your decrees; then I will keep them to the end. Give me understanding, and I will keep your law and obey it with all my heart." Psalm 119:33-34

"Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. DO what it says!" James 1:22

HOW TO STUDY A BIBLE PASSAGE

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The key to Bible Study is asking good questions.

"I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, that I also may be cheered when I receive news about you. I have no one else like him, who takes a genuine interest in your welfare. For everyone else looks out for his own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel. I hope, therefore, to send him as soon as I see how things go with me. And I am confident in the Lord that I myself will come soon. But I think it is necessary to send back to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger, whom you sent to take care of my needs. For he longs for all of you and is distressed because you heard he was ill. Indeed he was ill, and almost died. But God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, to spare me sorrow upon sorrow. Therefore I am all the more eager to send him, so that when you see him again you may be glad and I may have less anxiety. Welcome him in the Lord with great joy, and honor men like him, because he almost died for the work of Christ, risking his life to make up for the help you could not give me." Philippians 2:19-30

1. OBSERVATION: _____

- _____
"I hope to send you Timothy" Vs. 19
- _____
"I think it is necessary to send Epaphroditus back to you" Vs. 25
- _____
(Timothy) "I have no one else like him!" Vs. 20
- _____
(Epaphroditus) "Welcome him . . . HONOR men like him." Vs. 29
- _____
vs. 20-21 "takes a genuine interest"
vs. 22 "has proved himself"
vs. 25 "my brother, fellow worker, fellow soldier"
vs. 26 "longs for all of you and is distressed"
vs.27-30 "almost died for the work of Christ, risking his life"

2. INTERPRETATION: _____

"I have no one else like him, who takes a genuine interest in your welfare. For everyone else looks out for his own interests" Vs. 21

"genuinely cares for you . . . others only care about themselves." (GNT)

"they are all wrapped up in their own affairs" (PHILLIPS)

1. _____
"Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father, he has served with me in the work of the gospel." Vs. 2
"you know what kind of person Timothy proved to be." (GW)
2. _____
"I send back to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger, whom you sent to take care of my needs." Vs. 25
"he has worked and fought by my side." (GNT)
3. _____
"For he longs for all of you and is distressed because you heard he was ill." Vs. 26
4. _____
"Indeed he was ill, and almost died . . . he almost died for the work of Christ, risking his life to make up for the help you couldn't give me." Vs. 27, 30
5. _____

3. CORRELATION: _____

Timothy: 1 & 2 Timothy Epaphroditus: Philippians 4:14-18

4. APPLICATION: _____

S.P.A.C.E.P.E.T.S. Personal Practical Possible Provable

Next Step

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UNDERSTANDING THE MEANING OF A TEXT

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Observation: What does it say?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

Correlation: What other verses explain it?

Application: What will I DO about it?

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no FRUIT, while every branch that does bear FRUIT he prunes so that it will be even more FRUITFUL. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear FRUIT by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear FRUIT unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much FRUIT; apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much FRUIT, showing yourselves to be my disciples. As the Father has LOVED me, so have I LOVED you. Now remain in my LOVE. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my LOVE, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his LOVE. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: LOVE each other as I have LOVED you. Greater LOVE has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear FRUIT—FRUIT that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. This is my command: LOVE each other." John 15:1-17

PROBLEM VERSE:

"If anyone doesn't remain in me, he's like a branch that's thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned." Vs. 6

SOME BASIC RULES OF INTERPRETATION

1. _____
Ch. 13 to 17 = Jesus' final words of comfort to his disciples before his arrest

"I've told you these things so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete!" Vs. 11

2. _____
"Love" = mentioned 9 times "Fruit" = mentioned 9 times
"Fruit" & "Fruitful" = 45 times in New Testament
What is meaning of "fruit" in this context?
3. _____
"Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me."
John 15:4 (NIV)
 - **BEARING FRUIT** _____
"This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples." Vs. 8
 - **BEARING FRUIT** _____
"I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete." Vs. 11
 - **BEARING FRUIT** _____
4. _____
"If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you!" Vs. 7
 - **REMAINING IN CHRIST PRODUCES** _____
"I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it."
John 14:13
 - _____ **BRINGS GLORY TO GOD!**
"Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete!" John 16:24
 - _____ **GIVES ME COMPLETE JOY!**
"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name!" Vs. 16
 - **I BEAR FRUIT BY** _____

MY PERSONAL APPLICATION

"Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house upon the rock." Matthew 7:24

INTEGRATING GOD'S WORD INTO MY LIFE

40 Days in the Word
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"What I want most of all and at all times is to honor your laws." Psalm 119:20 (CEV)

HOW TO INTEGRATE GOD'S WORD INTO MY LIFE

(Using My Memorized Verses)

1. _____
"Everyone who hears these words of mine, and puts them into practice, is like a wise man who built his house on the rock." Matthew 7:24

Unreliable Foundations

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

2. _____
"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly." Colossians 3:16

1. _____ with my ears. (listen)
2. _____ with my eyes
3. _____ with my hands & mouth (study)
4. _____ with my mind
5. _____ with my heart

3. _____
"I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you." Psalm 119:11

4. _____
"Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law." Psalm 119:18

PARABLE OF THE 4 SOILS (Luke 8:4-15)

1. The hardened soil = _____
Action: _____
2. The shallow soil = _____
Action: _____
3. The soil with weeds = _____
Action: _____
4. The good soil = _____
Action: _____

5. _____
"Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says." James 1:22

Picture it!	Visualize the scene in your mind
Pronounce it!	Emphasize each word aloud
Paraphrase it!	Write it down in your own words
Personalize it!	Put your name in the verse
Probe it!	Ask the S.P.A.C.E.P.E.T.S. questions
Pray it!	Pray the verse back to God

6. _____
"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path." Psalm 119:105

NEXT STEPS

1. Commit to stay in your Small Group Study
2. Commit to stay in the Word daily.
3. Sign your 40 Days in the Word Covenant
4. Have a party!
5. Choose your next study

Next Step

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