**Chapter Seven**

**How to apply God’s word to your life**

**Expected outcome**

1. To develop and understanding of the role and importance of God’s word in daily life. Psalm 1:1-3; 2 Tim.3:16-17; Heb. 4:12; James 1:22-25
2. Develop skills on how to apply God’s principles in every specific life situation.
3. Has memorised 2 Tim.3:16-17

**Personal Preparation for BS**

1. Have you memorised 2 Tim. 3:16-17
2. Have you read all the Scriptures for this BS
3. Text your BS group as a reminder
4. Prepare session lesson plan
5. To study God’s word requires discipline. Pray for understanding, set aside time for study.

 **Be an Example**

1. Can you memorise 2 Tim.3:16-17?
2. Are you well prepared and ready to answer some questions such as:
3. Why did God give us the Bible? This requires research on the leader.
4. Who is the primary author of the Bible?
5. What is meditation and how does it apply to personally?
6. What do we mean by “inspiration of Scriptures?”

**Essential Concept to understand**

Read Psalm 1:1-3. The word of God is Beneficial

1. What type of man delights in the law of the Lord? According to verse 1, he does not:

a……………………………………………………………………..

b …………………………………………………………………….

c……………………………………………………………………..

1. In verse 2, because of his delight, what does he do with the law of the Lord?

a……………………………………………………………………..

1. What does the word “meditate” mean

a……………………………………………………………………..

1. Why does this man meditate?

a……………………………………………………………………..

1. Turn to Joshua 1:8. Why does the Lord tell Joshua to meditate on His word day and night?

a……………………………………………………………………..

1. What will be the benefits to Joshua if he is “careful to do according to all that is written in it”?

a……………………………………………………………………

1. In Psalm 1:3, what are the benefits of delighting and meditating in God’s word?

a…………………………………………

b…………………………………………

c…………………………………………

d…………………………………………

1. How would you rephrase that to apply specifically to you?

a……………………………………………………………………

Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17 All Scripture is Useful

1. Who is the primary author of the Scripture?

a……………………………………………………………………

1. Why is the Scripture useful?

a…………………………………………………………………….

b……………………………………………………………………

c……………………………………………………………………

d……………………………………………………………………

1. Why according to verse, is the Word of God necessary?

a……………………………………………………………………

Read Hebrews 4:12 The Word of God is Living

1. The writer of Hebrews gives a number of attributes to the Word of God, what are they?

a………………………………………….

b………………………………………….

c………………………………………….

d………………………………………….

e…………….............................................

1. Meditate on this verse and write out in your own words how it would apply to your life.

………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Read James 1:22-25 Be Effectual Doers of God’s Word

1. In verse 22, James notes two possible responses to God’s Word. What are they? The Lord Jesus also explains there are two possible reactions to His Word in Matthew 7:24-27.

James 1:22 Matthew 7:24 and 7:26

a………………………………………….

 b………………………………………….

c………………………………………….

 d…………………………………………

In Matthew, the Lord used the illustration of building a house. Both men built a house, but on different foundations, what were they?

The wise man built on………………………….

The foolish man built on …………………………..

**Note:** The importance of the foundation to the duration of the builder’s effort. What do these houses represent? ………………………………………………………………………..

………………………………………………………………………..

1. What analogy is used for God’s word in James 1:23?

a……………………………………………………………………

1. How does the passage ‘above’ relate to Hebrews 4:12?

a………………………………………….…………………………

**Note:** Psalm 119 is a well know passage of Scripture devoted to the Word of God and its ministry in our lives. Try to set aside time to read and meditate and discover ‘nuggets of gold’ from this passage. The Word of God has many names such as: law, precepts, etc. Look at some of the benefits for those who obey God’s Word such as: v. 28 strength; v.35 delight; v.46 will not be put to shame, etc. We are also exhorted to: v.8 obey His decree; v.9 living according to His Word; v.15 meditate on God’s precepts. etc.

**Fellowship and Sharing**

1. Share about your quite time this week. Any burden and care, or praise?
2. This is how you can develop real deep friendships. Pray for one another.

**Summary and Conclusion**

1. All Scripture is inspired by God (God-breathed)
2. The Word of God is perfect,
3. Useful: for teaching, reproof, correction, training in righteousness
4. God’s Word is Living
5. Application of God’s word to our lives brings spiritual prosperity.

**Closing prayer**

1. Pray that we may be all ‘doers of God’s Word, not just hearers.’

**Assignment**

1. Read and memorise Pro. 3:5-6 for the next lesson.
2. Prepare a 1 minute testimony about the impact of God’s Word this last week.

**Chapter Eight**

**How to know God’s will**

**Expected outcome**

1. To develop a better understanding of the basic Scriptures explaining the importance of knowing God’s will and the benefits of obeying it. Read Psalm 32:8-9; Prov. 3:5-6; John 10:1-11
2. So that we may know how to seek God’s will in specific situations.
3. Each one has memorised Prov.3:5-6

**Personal Preparation for BS**

1. Memorise Prov.3:5-6
2. Complete reading the major concepts
3. Remind your BS group
4. Prepare a session lesson plan

**Be an Example**

1. That you have memorised Prov.3:5-6
2. You have well written lesson notes or plan
3. Are you ready to answer some questions such as:
4. Why is it essential to know God’s will?
5. How can you tell that a specific direction or decision is God’s will (God’s Word, inner peace, counsellors wisdom, circumstances)
6. What qualities do you look for in a counsellor?
7. What should play the single most important role in helping you determine God’s will? (the revealed Word)

 **Essential Concept to understand**

Read Prov. 3:5-6 He shall direct your paths

1. According to verse 5, there are two possible sources for guidance. What are they?

a……………………………………………………………………

b……………………………………………………………………

1. This passage explains that God will “direct your paths” if you do three things. What are they?

a……………………………………………………………………

b……………………………………………………………………

c……………………………………………………………………

1. The word “all” is mentioned twice—both times to indicate the degree of, or extent of, our commitment. What are those two instances?

a……………………………………………………………………

b……………………………………………………………………

Read Psalm 32:8-9. I will instruct you

1. In Ephesians 5:17, we are instructed to know what the will of the Lord is. What is the promise God makes to us in Psalm 32:8?

a……………………………………………………………………

1. What are the implications to you in verse 9 concerning the will of God?

a……………………………………………………………………

……………………………………………………………………

Read John 10:1-11. He leads them out

**Note:** Throughout the Bible God calls His people “sheep” and here in John 10, we hear from the good shepherd Jesus Christ. The shepherd has many responsibilities including care and protection, but here the emphasis is on a third area of responsibility-leadership and guidance.

1. In verse 3 we see that the responsibility of the shepherd is to lead. What role do we see for the sheep in verse 4? a……………………………………………………………………
2. Why do they follow?

a ……………………………………………………………………

1. If we are to follow Christ’s leadership, we must know His voice. How can we, in practical terms, learn to know His voice?

a……………………………………………………………………

1. In verse 5 we find that there are other voices we can follow, as we seek guidance in a particular situation. Who might some of these “strangers” be? a……………………………………………………………………
2. What is our protection from these strange voices in verse 5? a……………………………………………………………………

**Note:** To know God’s will, it is first vitally important that we know God’s voice. Two main reasons: First, so that we will recognise God’s voice (will) when we hear it. Often, God’s word and will would run contrary to the world’s standard and values (1 John 2:15-17) and to human understanding (Prov.3:5-6) Therefore, it is important that we be able to distinguish the voice of our Shepherd over that of other voices clamouring for our attention. Secondly, knowing God’s voice implies that we know the Shepherd (His personality, His heart, His mind) as well as His words. His words out of context and misquoted can run counter to God’s desire. When Satan tempted Eve in the garden and Christ in the wilderness, he used God’s Word in both instances, but misquoted it both in content and context.

1. As we consistently follow our Shepherd and rely on Him for direction and guidance, what are some of the characteristics we observe?

a………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

  **Fellowship and Sharing**

1. Try to find out if he/she or any of the BS group is involved in any other church activities, besides Sunday services?
2. The church is a very important part of the Christian life, does the church preach the word of God?
3. Sound teaching and lively fellowship is highly recommended.

**Summary and Conclusion**

1. We are instructed to know the will of God. Eph.5:17
2. God promises to reveal His will. How? Ps.32: 8
3. Heart attitude is a prerequisite to knowing God’s will. Pro. 3:5-6
4. God views His role as that of a shepherd, who has the responsibility to provide guidance and there are blessings for the sheep who follow**.**

**Closing Prayer**

During this time it is important to pray for God’s wisdom to know His will, particularly in the area of choosing a career and perhaps a suitable partner in life; of course, other decisions to make

**Assignment**

1. Read Rom 12: 1-2; or may be the whole chapter

**Chapter Nine**

**How to faithfully give our Time, Talent, and Treasure**

**Expected outcome**

1. To develop an understanding of the basic Scripture explaining “The Lordship of Christ.” Luke 9:23, Rom.12:1-2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-15.
2. That he/she demonstrates commitment to Christ’s Lordship in different areas of life.
3. He/she memorised Rom.12:1-2

**Personal Preparation for BS**

1. Did you memorise Rom.12:1-2
2. Remind for next BS
3. Prepare a session lesson plan
4. Pray for your group to discover the importance of the Lordship of Christ**.**

**Be an Example**

1. That you still memorise the previous memory verses
2. Do you have notes or written lesson plans
3. Are you ready to answer some of these questions?
4. What is the definition of the word “Lord?”
5. What are some of the ways Jesus is Lord?
6. What are some of the reasons you might hesitate to make Christ the Lord of your life?
7. What are the alternatives to making Jesus Lord of your life?
8. By what right does Jesus have to be Lord of your life?

**Essential Concept to understand**

 Luke 9:23, Romans 12:1,2 Cor. 9:6-15

**Note:** Phil.2:10-11 says, “…that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.”

What does the word “Lord” mean? What does Christ being Lord mean to you as individual?

 How the Lordship of Christ should affect our lives?

 Read Romans 12:1-2 Jesus Christ, my Lord

1. In verse 1, what does it mean “offer” (present) your bodies?

a………………………………………………………………………

1. How do we offer our bodies?

a………………………………………………………………………

1. To whom are we to offer them?

a………………………………………………………………………

1. Why should we offer our bodies, according to this verse?

a…………………………………………..…………………………

1. According to verse 2, what is the alternative to offering ourselves to God?

a………………………………………….…………………………

**Note**: How does this passage relate to Matthew 6:24-34? What does it mean, “No one can serve two master?” Is there any middle ground?

 Read Luke 9:23 Following Christ.

1. Are our bodies all we are to present? In Luke 9:23, Christ gives three conditions to coming after Him. What are they?

a………………………………………………………………………

b………………………………………………………………………

c………………………………………………………………………

1. What does it mean to “deny” yourself? How does that relate to Rom.12:1?

a………………………………………….…………………………

1. What does it mean to “take up your cross” (Hint: it does not mean to carry a burden).

a…………………………………………...…………………………

1. In Luke 14:33, the Lord says, “any of you who does not give up everything he has, cannot be my disciple.” What are some of the things we possess and are to give up that don’t fall into the area of tangible possessions like money, house, car, etc.?

a…………………………………………

b…………………………………………

c…………………………………………..

d…………………………………………..

e…………………………………………...

f…………………………………………...

 Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-15 Lordship in Practice.

1. In verse 6, Paul talks of sowing, what is he referring to?

a…………………………………………................................

How do we sow? …………………………………………….

1. Who is to make the decision to sow (also of what, how much, and when to sow)?

a………………………………………….…………………………

1. According to this passage, (verses 6-15), what are we to sow?

a………………………………………………………………………

1. What are the benefits to sowing bountifully?

a………………………………………………………………………

1. When we are obedient and give cheerfully, who gets the glory according to verse 13?

……………………………………………………………………….

**Fellowship and Sharing**

1. Be sure you know the condition of your flock, give careful attention to your herds” Prov. 27:23
2. What are the problems he/she is wrestling with?
3. Listen for nonverbal and verbal communications?
4. Any amazing experiences last week?

**Summary and Conclusion**

1. Jesus Christ is Lord Phil.2:11; John 13:13
2. We acknowledge His Lordship in our lives Rom.12:1-2; Lk. 9:23
3. We must allow Him to exercise His Lordship over every area of our lives

2 Cor. 9:6-15; Lk.14:33

**Closing Prayer**

1. Perhaps, giving praise to God for answered prayer
2. During prayer time ask God to point out an area of your life that is not submitted to Him so that you may ‘present’ it to Him.

**Assignment**

1. Revision of the last two memory verses 2. Read Acts 1:1-8