

Loving, Following, and Serving through Scripture

Discipleship is helping people love, follow, and serve Jesus with all of themselves. It is the act of obeying Jesus' Great Commission to multiply His Kingdom by making disciples and helping them observe all that He commanded us (Matthew 28:18-20). But it's not just about what we do (Great Commission). It's also how we do it (Great Commandment). In His kindness, God has given us a framework to "apply," ensuring that we don't fall victim to the task of discipleship, but that in every aspect of our life we love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength (Mark 12:30). Whether we've loved the Lord for two days or twenty years, we all have an opportunity to be disciplined and disciple others.

Command

Scripture should play a significant role in the life of a believer. Jesus, in Matthew 4:4, says, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

General Application Questions

1 Heart

Is your heart alive and activated while reading **scripture**? Do you worship while reading?

2 Soul

Do you believe in the authority and holiness of **scripture**?

3 Mind

Are you engaging thought, logic, and reason as you read?

4 Strength

Are you disciplined in reading and meditating on **scripture**? Do you read consistently?



Digging Deeper

The general questions are by no means exhaustive. Each truth and command about **scripture** is nuanced and intentional and an opportunity to apply the framework through reflection. Here is what it might look like for a specific verse.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

*"All **scripture** is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."*

In the 2 Timothy passage, we see truth about **scripture** that should be believed (soul). It should be used to teach, reproof, and correct (mind). **Scripture** should train in righteousness and equip us for every good work, meaning our faithful pursuit of it should bear fruit (strength). The gift that **scripture** is for the believer should, in response, stir our hearts to worship (heart).

1 Heart

Does the gift (blessing and provision) of God's word stir your heart to worship?

2 Soul

Do you believe that every book, chapter, verse, word, etc. of **scripture** is God's word and is profitable?

3 Mind

Do you thoughtfully and intentionally use **scripture** to teach? Is it the foundation and basis for any reproof and correction given to yourself or other believers?

4 Strength

Do you faithfully spend time in the word for its intended purpose? Do you see fruit as a result?

Here are some additional verses to apply the framework.

- Colossians 3:16
- Romans 15:4
- Psalm 119
- Matthew 24:35
- Isaiah 55:11
- Hebrews 4:12-13
- John 1:1-5
- Luke 24:27

Making Disciples

Discipleship is both personal and corporate, and the goal of a follower of Christ should be to receive and give **personally** and **corporately** so that we all grow holistically. Spend time in prayer to answer the following questions.

How can you disciple another (think life on life) in loving, following, and serving Jesus through **scripture**?

What role can you play in the corporate discipleship of loving, following, and serving Jesus through **scripture** (think CG)?
