

Taking Quality Time with The Lord and the Word



Taking Quality Time with the Lord – The Word

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(All prophecies are Jesus speaking unless otherwise indicated)

The Importance of the Word

The fact of the matter is that many of you, My brides, have not yet realized how vital and how much of a matter of life and death it is if you do not make My Word your number-one priority. ⁽¹⁾

If I do not come first, if My Word doesn't come first, then how will I be able to bless you? How can I guarantee your success? How can I lead you to your promised future if you do not follow on the path of My Word?

My Word has all the direction. My Word holds all the secrets. My Word will give you the strength. My Word will make the impossible possible for you. You will not be able to do this on your own, and this is even truer from this new era on. The more you walk into the future, the greater your need for this lifeline with Me. Your spiritual eyes will need to open more fully if you are to see the promises that I have waiting for you. You cannot expect to just glide right into the future on your own strength, your own wisdom, and your own resolution.

You can liken the seriousness of it to the need for the sun in your lives. If this world didn't receive the energy, heat, light, and all the benefits that it provides, you would die. Imagine if the sun only produced half of its light or even three-quarters of its light; you would not be able to survive. So it is if you cut the Word out of your life even a little. You must let the Word reign supreme. You need to let it dominate. You need to let it bring you the light, energy, and heat that your spirit requires, otherwise your spirit will not have the strength that it needs to face the future.

Things will not remain as they are. The battles are intensifying. The demands will be greater. There are and will be higher expectations. And the one and only thing that will bring you through it and help you to make it is My Word. I am the vine and you are the branches. Without Me you will bear no fruit. ⁽²⁾

Continue to lean upon Me and My strength. Continue to spend time with Me, drinking of My Word and sucking My seeds, for in them is the strength, the power, the inspiration, the desired energy, the enthusiasm and the help that you desperately seek. For no matter what role you play, and no matter where My voice may call you today or tomorrow, you can do it with the power of My Word upholding and sustaining you.

And when you feel you cannot walk one more step, turn to My Word. Hold it before your eyes, absorb it, think about it, meditate on it and let it fill your very being. For in the days to come, the dark days ahead, so shall it be for all of My children. It shall be My Word and My Spirit that sustains them. ⁽³⁾

In the days to come those who are not strong in the area of feeding on My Word will find themselves in serious trouble when the winds of adversity blow. The days continue to grow dark and the night will soon be upon you. Without the power and light of My Word to lead the way, you will fall by the wayside and perish.

I say this not to frighten you, My children, but to warn you that you need to develop good Word habits now while you have time. Ask Me to ingrain them into the very fiber of your being, so that when the time comes and the storms blow, your house will be well built and firmly anchored to the rock of My Word, and not poorly built, with little foundation or firmness. ⁽⁴⁾

My dearest brides, you need to get it firmly fixed in your minds, hearts and spirits that you will not accomplish, not succeed, not overcome, and not grow stronger if you do not put My Word first. If you do not spend the time in the temple that is needed, then there isn't much I can do to give you the strength, power, vision, endurance, anointing, and change that you are looking for. You wonder how you can fit time with Me into your busy schedules, into your daily lives? You wonder how you can find time to rest in Me as individuals and as a Home? The question should be, how can you fit what you need to do in the day around the time you have to spend with Me? That should be the question!

First things first - My Word. You work out time spent in My temple, time spent in My Word, time spent hearing from Me, and then you can think about going about your day to take care of My business. I am greatly saddened that this is still a question and that people are still wondering about this and how it can be done.

Haven't I made it clear enough? What more can I say? I am patient. I am gentle. I will try to drive this point home. But if you, My brides, do not take the time for the Word and recognize this vital need in your lives, then My hands are tied. You will meet with failure, and you will find it very difficult to face the future that I am bringing you into.

I understand that it's not easy. I know how difficult it is to find the time you need to tune in to your spiritual lives when all around you there are physical matters to take care of. The physical will always "scream" louder than the spiritual, hence it will seem more important to you, but that's why I was banking on getting the point across in the messages I gave in "What Is Jesus Worth to You?" - that while it may seem to you that

the physical is more important, since there will always be pressing matters and physical emergencies, the spiritual is always more important! ⁽⁵⁾

It's not a matter of only needing the Word for your encouragement or for your spiritual health. Haven't you yet learned that it will be your very survival? You, My children, are not children of this world. You are children of My Word. If the Word were taken out of your lives, you would die spiritually. You would become lifeless. I am bringing you to greater dependence on Me, and when you walk this road you will find that your very survival, your very life, depends on just that - Me and My Word. ⁽⁶⁾

It is My Word that is most important, not My work. My work is very important, yes, but it is My Word that I have exalted even above My Name. It is My Word that shall never pass away. It is My Word of which I spoke when I said every jot and tittle of it will be fulfilled. I am My Word, and My Word will endure forever, and its presence in you is vitally important if you are to do My work as you desire (Psalms 138:2; Matthew 24:35; 5:18; John 1:14).

So make this daily time in My Word a sacred and holy matter which even My work cannot interfere with. Tell yourself that you must have it if you are to do My work properly, and then be faithful to take it without fail. Consider it part of your work if you must. Put it on your to-do list; consider it a project with a deadline that must be met on a daily basis. ⁽⁷⁾

Spiritual strength comes from Me--from abiding in Me, abiding in My Spirit. It is Mine to give, and I give it to those who feed heartily upon My Word, who cherish it, who draw their nourishment from it. For these are My true soldiers--those who desire true strength, those who have the faith to put other things aside and to feast upon My strengthening Spirit that comes from My Word.

Your faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God. You have an abundance of Word. Use that weapon. Use that tool. Perfect your use of it. Develop your skills in using it, and it will profit you much! ⁽⁸⁾

When I'm in first place, I help all the other details of your day to fall into their proper places. Everything always works out better and more smoothly when you give Me the prime time that I deserve. It moves Me to strengthen your Home as a whole. It literally forces Me to do more miracles for you, because I'm so pleased that you trust Me enough to keep your time with Me and My Word untouchable. ⁽⁹⁾

Your Word time is building up your love relationship with Me, loving Me and desiring Me more than anything else. Other things will have their place too and will come in time, but I and My Word come first. ⁽¹⁰⁾

The real, down-to-earth meaning of making Word time sacred and making it a priority means making it time that won't be disrupted. ⁽¹¹⁾

It's being lazy in spirit to not want to stir yourself up as much as you should to get fed from My Word--and that's something you need to change. Change your mindset and ideas about it, realizing that I want you to put it first and foremost in your life, and if you get nothing else done but spending your time with Me, then it's worth it. ⁽¹²⁾

You're lethargic in spirit because you don't see the dire importance of a regular intake of good, feeding Word and daily times with Me. This is spiritual lethargy--to think that you can do without it, or to think that you will survive without it, or to not exert the spiritual energy necessary to make this a part of your daily life that you never miss. It should be as sacred as your sleep at night--if not more so. You can't imagine a day that would go by without you taking at least a few hours of sleep at night; it's an integral part of life. So it should be with your Word time and your time with Me. It should be automatic. It should be something that you should never go without. ⁽¹³⁾

Anything that would take the place of a good solid daily feeding in My Word should not be allowed in your life. ⁽¹⁴⁾

When you allow your Word time to be crowded out, it's like exchanging your gold for some plastic trinkets--the little daily jobs and cares of life. Put your Word time first. Be most faithful with that, and then with all the other little things. Everything works better that way! ⁽¹⁵⁾

This Family Was Built on the Word and Thrives on the Word!

(Dad speaking:) Good night! If they have half-an-hour of devotions, 15 minutes of praise time, half-an-hour of personal reading, and 15 minutes of hearing from the Lord, that's an hour-and-a-half daily! I think they'll see very quickly that an hour-and-a-half is not too much to ask. I'll bet you anything that the Homes that are already doing this are the Homes that are not only surviving but thriving, and that the Lord is blessing and they have fruitful ministries!

This Family was born on the Word--reading the Word, memorizing the Word, teaching the Word! It was a constant part of our diet. But it was alive and it was fresh and it was new, and that's what it has to be. It can't be boring meetings or long classes--it's gotta be inspired teaching, inspired reading, inspired absorbing, and inspired living of the Word if it's gonna work! Otherwise, it'll just become a ritual, and this law of God will become of no effect if it's not applied and done in the spirit.

So, Honey, I get fired up about things, I get hot under the collar, but if I hadn't laid down the law and been a tough commanding officer, we never would have gotten anything done! There's always an excuse why people can't witness, there's always an excuse why they can't go to the mission field, and there's always an excuse why they can't get in the Word, but I get tired of excuses! So that's why I say, just do it! (16)

Spiritual Nutrition Lesson!

You, My Family, are learning, and you're growing in taking more time to hear from Me, to listen to My voice in prophecy, and to receive My counsel and direction on what to do. But I call on you now to look and see what I've put in your hands. I put the help, the manpower and enough hours in the day. I provide the time, the means and the tools. Yet it is given to you to put to proper use all that I supply--to not lean too far to one in an improper balance, and thus leave the other undone.

I give you a picture of the master chef who knows all his ingredients well and is able to skillfully blend the herbs and spices in exact proportion, in order to turn out a savory dish. Diversity of spices provides for diversity of cuisine. You may add oregano to tonight's meal, yet the following night you omit the Italian spice and add the Oriental spice to your dish; therefore you have the difference between Italian Bolognese sauce and curried beef. Both are made with the same meat, yet the spices and preparation and the sauce you prepare vary the dish.

For all your meals you must have enough protein on a daily basis in order to stay strong and healthy and properly nourished. Likewise you must have enough of My Word and communion with Me on a daily basis, in order to stay nourished and strengthened in spirit. Spices change according to the recipe, but the protein is essential for proper functioning of the body, proper growth, and for repair of damaged tissues.

Your Word time, prayer time, and praise time is like the protein of My Spirit. When you ask Me how, in practical terms, you are to do all that I put before you, I say that daily protein intake is imperative.

When you wonder how you can cut corners, you must not consider cutting down that vital time with Me each day! You must not try to cut down too much on your

protein intake. If you try to cut corners on this too much, you'll find that you'll soon run out of strength to continue on; you'll soon weaken your muscle tone and run the risk of greater injury and sickness due to impaired health.

The secret is in the balance. Just as proper preparation and how you choose to eat your physical food will either help preserve or destroy the nutrients, so the way you choose to feed on My Word, under what conditions and circumstances you read and feed and spend time in the bed of love with Me, will determine how much you are able to really drink in, absorb, and benefit from the good nutrition that I supply.

Ideally, I would that My children eat and feast from My elegant banquet table on a daily basis--sitting down to relax and enjoy a nice, hot, full-course meal. There will be times, though, when this is not possible, due to pressing affairs of the Kingdom that you must tend to.

If you are going to be able to cope with a busy schedule and the stress and strain of your jobs, it is imperative that your diet is well-planned so that you will have strength to fight the battles at hand. The danger here is in skipping meals altogether. Once you start down this road, you'll find before long that your performance will be seriously hindered.

Another temptation is to fill your diet with junk food, compromising good nutritional value for a diet filled with empty calories and harmful additives, like weak Christian music, doctrines or theories, or the worldly wisdom of man--books, games, movies, music, the Internet. You must take great care to chart a good diet and meal plan that will enable you to get the proper nutrition that is so vital to top performance in your tasks.

Relaxing and sitting down to eat a good, well-balanced meal will provide good nourishment, and I delight to see you eating these good meals as often as possible. But should there be times when more formal dining is not possible, I would that you plan on taking in a quicker, yet good, nourishing meal rather than skipping out on a meal altogether or filling up on junk food. You don't necessarily have to forfeit good nutrition for lack of time to eat the full-course meal. This is where careful meal planning is imperative if you are to stay strong and healthy and not get run down, tired and sickly due to poor eating habits.

The more relaxing sit-down dinner is likened to one and a half hours, occasionally more, of time in the bed of love, praising, reading and absorbing My Word, topped with a dessert of hearing My direct counsel in the form of prophecy as I whisper in your ear.

The packed lunch is likened to a shorter, yet concentrated time with Me, either filling up on some power-packed, concentrated Word, in the form of DB Letters and/or choice Letters and prophecies and such, or a time of praise and prayer and hearing My direct,

personal counsel for the day--one of these, or a combination of all, but in a shorter amount of time.

You must not live on packed lunches day after day, nor will you always be able to afford to sit down on a daily basis to enjoy the more appetizing full-course meal. But I would that you find the proper balance. Balance in your diet is imperative to good health.

The secret is in the organization and planning so that you're able to stop frequently for those full-course meals when and where necessary, even if you have to invite others to dine along with you. This will teach others the importance of getting a good, balanced meal.

Many of My children are in need of a health revolution in spirit! Many are famished and undernourished for lack of proper meal planning, for lack of properly charting out their menus, and for lack of sitting down to relax and enjoy a good, well-balanced meal, forfeiting this necessity for eating on the run.

You ask, "But Lord, in practical terms, how can we afford this time to enjoy sit-down dinners, when we have so much to do? Eating on the run is so much more convenient and enables us to get out the door and be about our business."

On occasion I wink at this, but as a habit, you must keep in mind that it's not how much you're able to stuff down your throat that provides for good nutrition, but how much you're able to properly digest, assimilate, and absorb into your system that will do you good. Relaxed eating is imperative to good digestion and proper distribution of vitamins, minerals, and essential amino acids that all contribute to good health.

Be not deceived, thinking you're saving time and energy by eating on the run. In the long run, you may be tearing down your resistance and doing damage to yourself that will show up in the future in a far more grave way than what you think you might be failing to accomplish today in your work. Would you be penny-wise and pound-foolish? For bad eating habits and lack of good nutrition today, you may well have to pay the price tomorrow.

I give you this physical illustration as a picture of the importance of your spiritual feeding and the daily food intake of feasting on My Word. Good health is a way of life that comes from building good, strong, faithful habits. I would that My shepherds be a sample of this in their daily living--not only for their own benefit and good health, but also because this is what My children need to see.

My children are tired, even to the point of exhaustion. Many are on a go, go, go, do, do, do merry-go-round, and they're finding it difficult--nearly impossible--to get off. But I don't put this pressure on My children, nor on My shepherds. It's because you've acquired bad eating habits and are eating on the run most of the time. Therefore you're

not able to absorb your food properly, which all too often results in indigestion of the spirit.

The practical solution you seek lies in striking a proper balance in all that I have instructed you to do. There's a time and a place for everything, and it's up to each Home, each teamwork, and each individual to find what works best, according to their particular needs.

The ideal is for all My children to have at least one nourishing, well-balanced meal a day. Many cultures around the world accomplish this in various ways. There are those who major on a good hearty breakfast; others eat their main full-course meal at midday; and yet in many countries, people take in a nice full-course dinner in the evening. This does not mean that you do not also eat at other times of the day. Growing bodies and spirits, especially young ones, need nourishment throughout the day.

Although breakfast is one of your most important meals, especially for those whose jobs require great physical activity, dealing with outsiders, deadlines and so forth, such as My front-line soldiers, if you're not able to take in a good solid chunk of Word time and feasting in the morning, lest you miss your other appointments, then you might consider having your main meal later in the day, either at midday or in the evening. You can still eat a hearty, convenient breakfast, fortified with extra-strength nutrients in the form of condensed Word, powerful heartfelt prayers, and singing and praise to Me.

Some might want to consider a mixed schedule and diet, alternating more elaborate breakfasts some days with more elaborate dinners on other days. Whatever you do, however you organize, don't skip meals!

There are infinite ways to plan and organize your daily meal plan. You have only to pray and ask Me, and I'll make it clear in each case what plan suits you best. Busy Homes with busy schedules might consider rotation of personnel within the Home on a regular basis, where all can take turns getting those nice relaxing full-course meals, if it is not always possible to eat them at the same time on a daily basis. If someone has been eating a packed lunch for three days straight, it might be time to alternate duties, so that he or she can partake of a nice sit-down meal. Take shifts, if you must; rotate. But whatever you do, make sure that everyone is getting a good, nutritious diet!

Through lack of unity and proper organization in My Homes, many times the diet is found lacking. For lack of pulling together and bearing the burdens of another, being mindful of the need, and making it possible for each one to have the good, nutritious diet that they so desperately need, the diet is found lacking.

As My Family becomes more united and strives to live together in unity, each will then become more mindful and respectful of others' needs and diet. And as you walk

more hand in hand, you will all be able to get on the health-diet bandwagon together.

Many are tired and weak unnecessarily, simply for a lack of proper organization in their personal lives, and the discipline of maintaining a good healthful diet. For though the days be busy and there is much work to be done in the fields, I do not leave My children comfortless, nor without the means to carry out My work--but proper utilization of time is of the essence.

If you will not neglect this vital time with Me, if you will not neglect the proper diet that I put at your disposal, you will find in the long run that I am able to help you be more efficient in the tasks I call you to do. You'll make fewer mistakes, be able to avoid pitfalls, and things will run far more smoothly as you put first things first.

There is yet much junk food in the diets of My children in the form of other input--be it unnecessary vain babble, unfruitful conversations full of idle talk, unfruitful times on the Information Highway [Internet], or other things and activities of lesser importance that rob them of their time with Me. Some are often tempted to get caught up with a little here and a little there, to where the hours dwindle away in trivia--involvement in unedifying games and movies that fill up the hours, rather than spending time with Me in the bed of love, or in prayer and praise.

I allow these within reason, and I give My children many liberties and options. I allow you to read information necessary to your ministries, so that you can stay in tune and abreast of the times. I also allow times of fun and relaxation, even times where you may have periods "away from thinking," for I am not a God that forgets that your frame is but dust. But the practical solution to the answers you seek lies in keeping a proper balance.

Don't be discouraged, thinking it can't be done, for I say it can be done! I give you the simple solution--it's in the balance, it's in the planning, it's in the careful charting of your nutritional needs and diet. It's in trusting Me that if I put you on a certain diet or suggest that you eat a certain food simply because it's good for you, you will go ahead and eat it and ask Me to help you acquire a taste for good, healthful food.

You must develop good long-term habits and stick to them as much as possible, to where indulging in the less nutritious foods is the exception and not the rule. Only then will you begin to see and reap the results of regular good healthful living in your body--that of a rosy complexion, soft skin, a strong healthy heart, good blood pressure, a hearty pulse rate, a clear mind, and good strong muscles, supple and ready to perform the most difficult tasks with the utmost of grace and skill.

The secret is in letting Me plan your schedule to the nth degree--every part, holding nothing back. The secret is in continuing to seek Me to know how to fully utilize what I've given you. This is done by seeking the balance, by spending that vital time with

Me, by keeping your focus and concentration so that you can get My signals and cues.

As you begin to make Me a part of every area of your lives, as I have instructed, this will greatly help to strengthen you. And then as you each begin to stay faithful and true to good healthful eating habits, by taking this vital time to eat a well-balanced diet on a daily basis, you'll see that it will reap lasting results in your overall health and well-being. (17)

Absorbing the Word and Letting the Word Live in You

Nothing is more important than absorbing My Word and applying it to your lives. Whatever your ministry is, whatever work you do for Me, it's not more important than getting My Words in, than living in My Words and letting My Words live in you. This is your most important task--the most important thing you have to do! Without this, all else will crumble, and without this, you won't last to do your job! Without this, you will not have the strength, stamina, and power to fulfill your destiny.

My Words are Me! My desire is to see you use to the full this most priceless possession in all existence. I beg of you, I plead with you--take heed to these words, and let Me live in you more fully. My heart is heavy, for I know you will not survive in the future without living more fully in My Word. You have been given more wealth of My Words than all the prophets of all time, and should you reject them or slide into slothfulness and not fight to guard these great possessions, having known the truth, yet allowing it to slip out of your grasp to where you do not use it to the full, it will be worse than if you had never known the truth at all. (18)

I know that your spirit is willing, yet the flesh is weak. I understand this. It is precisely because I understand this so well that I ask you to stop, to evaluate, to take a long, hard look into your hearts, to search your souls, and to seek Me as to what can be done to safeguard your time with Me, as well as your absorption and application of My Word in your lives. I ask this because I know you can't make it through the future without Me living more fully in you, without a lasting revolution in your Word habits, without getting your priorities straight.

You've got Me. You have not only a portion of My Words, but you hold the keys to My storehouses that contain the full counsel of God. I've given more of Myself to you than to any others in the entire world, in any given time in history. But the question is, will you make full use of what you possess? Your life depends on it, and not only your survival, but the lives and survival of many, many others.

Only as you live in My Word more fully will you be able to utilize the gifts I have

given you. Only then will I be able to fully possess you. Only then will you be able to fully focus on the power. Only then will you be able to fully use your gift of heavenly thought power. Only then will you be the living sample of My Words that will win others to Me, that will win lasting fruit, solid disciples, sold-out citizens of the world to come. Only then will you walk through the storm of the most terrible iniquity of all time, unscathed and triumphant. ⁽¹⁹⁾

I am the Word, and through showing you how to connect more intimately with Me during your Word times, how to experience Me and do those things that will feed your spirit more deeply, I am showing you how to become more one with the Word.

Reading and focused study of My Word should still be an important part of our times together. I want you to crave My Word, to apply it, to ask Me about it, and to store it in your heart. But in addition to this, I also want you to branch out and learn to explore the deeper chambers of the cave of your time with Me. I want you to grow in the area of experiencing the living presence of My Word--Me. I want you to learn to experience Me more while you read and while you spend time nourishing your spirit.

I want you to take more time thinking about what you personally need, and how you connect with Me best, and then do it. In this way you will come to know Me more intimately, more deeply, more personally, and in this way you will become one with Me and one with My Word even more.

I want to make our times together more rewarding than they have been. I want to teach you how to further experience the ecstasies and thrills of My Spirit. I want to show you how to come deeper into the cave of our times together, and there find sweeter nourishment, greater strength, and more beautiful realities. ⁽²⁰⁾

When you get fired up about something in the Word, it catapults you into My Spirit and snowballs, until everything you read comes alive to you by My Spirit. But it takes effort to strike the first spark or get the snowball started. It takes work. As My Apostle Paul said, you must labor to enter into My rest (Hebrews 4:11). ⁽²¹⁾

The Word has to speak to you like the whispers of a lover--words that you cherish, that you remember, that you dream about, that you repeat to yourself over and over, that you let become a part of you and that take on a life of their own inside of you. I want them to be a part of you--not filed away in your mind, nor even only accepted and believed. I want them to touch you, to move you, to stir you to action, to fill you, to lift you to new heights!

Pray for an insatiable hunger for the Word. I want you to crave it. I want you to

feel it in the depths of your soul. I want the Word to be such a part of you that you miss it if you don't get it, that you feel the loss.

My Word is Me, and I want to be so much a part of you that you can't wait until the next time you can be with Me. I would so love it if you treated My Word, and thus Me, as you do the one you love--giving Me your 100 percent focus; being willing to drop anything when I call; anticipating your time with the Word; putting your mind, body, and soul into your time; making sure that nothing will distract you during your important time with Me and My Word; thinking about it long after it's over; letting a part of your mind be consecrated to it--always on call, always thinking about ways you can make your time in My Word more quality. ⁽²²⁾

Your love for Me will be manifested in your desire to seek Me deeply through My Word. I want to bless you even more. I want My Word to dwell in you more richly. You can become much richer than you already are by receiving My New Wine. Get ambitious! Ask, pursue, linger with Me and never tire, but earnestly and desperately desire My Word. Go after it with all you've got!

Your love for My Word will help you to know Me in depth and in all the secret ways which you haven't explored yet. There is much for you to discover. You have yet to discover all these riches. You have married a rich Husband! As you continue in My Words you will be rich. This richness is faith! And faith comes by hearing the Word of God. Faith will also give you the trust to know, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that all things that you go through are but a moment in time--a testing ground as well as a steppingstone to greater heights, greater love and fruitfulness for Me and others. Rejoice in that, because you will go from strength to strength. When everything else and everyone is gone, My Word still abides, for it's the only truth and the only reality. ⁽²³⁾

Every time you read My Words, or hear from Me in prophecy, it's the same as a personal audience with Me, the King of all kings, and I am presenting you with special Words of wisdom, My counsel, instruction, guidance-words that you need desperately in order to do the job that I have asked you to do. Although I love you as a Husband and a Lover, a Friend and your Comforter, I am also your King, the King of the Universe, and it hurts and saddens Me when you don't treat My Words with the respect, admiration, attention, and reverence due Me.

Your Word time is a personal audience with Me in which I pour out My Words and instruction to you and I expect you to act upon them and obey them. I don't give it just for the sake of giving it, but I give it because I know that you need it and that your life, your happiness, your success and progress in your life, your ministry, your everything

depends on it! ⁽²⁴⁾

You need to ask Me and call on the keys to give you a deep and unswerving reverence for the Word. No matter how long you have known Me through My Word, I can still more than adequately surprise you. There's always something new that I have to tell you. ⁽²⁵⁾

My Word is always new and priceless, like jewels and diamonds that never lose their sparkle and shine. There is so much in the Word that you can read over and over again, and every time you will find new truths. It's like a deep ocean: Just as one person could never hope to explore all of the ocean, so you will never have explored all of the Word. There will always be new little truths for you, as well as massive breakthroughs and discoveries, as you diligently and in all faith dive into the waters of the Word. ⁽²⁶⁾

Delve deep into My Word and spend more time there. You need to become not just a deep swimmer, but a deep-sea diver in terms of time spent in My Word.

Think of it as not just Word time, but your calling, your responsibility to know the Word, to be filled with the Word, to be an expert in the Word. The more you get into it, the easier it will be. The more you study, the more you will desire to study, and the more you will retain and absorb. ⁽²⁷⁾

The Word is spirit. The natural man can't just sit down and start reading and expect it to fully become a part of him. It's a transformation that needs to take place in the spirit. So you need to make sure to open all times of reading with good prayer. It needs to be a quality prayer if you want to have quality time in the Word. It needs to be heartfelt, truly expressing your desire for key power to assist you as you read, so that you will understand the Word, that it will come alive to you, that it will become a part of you.

Without the spirit they're just dead words on a page. But with the spirit, they are Me--they are the embodiment of My very Person. That's the object of the opening prayer--to help those words become more than ink on a page, more than little toner spots on paper; to help them transform into the spirit and life of the God of the Universe! ⁽²⁸⁾

The keys are important and play a major role in quality Word time becoming a long-term reality in your life. Claim the power of the keys to help you to keep My Word first in importance in your life and not falter in your commitments in any way.

You need to feel compelled to be putting the spirit of the revolution into practice in your life--that spirit of wanting to be closer to Me, of wanting to put Me first, of wanting Me and the things of My Spirit above anything else in your life. ⁽²⁹⁾

If you'll come to Me on a regular basis, make it a priority to spend time with Me, both in the bed of love and in reading and imbibing My Words, then those Words will do the work in you. You won't have to worry, fear or wonder, "Am I doing okay? Am I being a good sample, a good influence?" All you have to do is take that time with Me and read My Words, and they'll do the work in you. It's not a work of the flesh; it's a work of My Spirit. So let those golden seeds of My Word fill you, and let them go to work.

It's like when you take a vitamin. You don't put the vitamin in your mouth, swallow it, and then run around trying to make it do something to help your body. You simply let it go to work. You forget about it, and you let it do its job within your body. It's the same with My Word. If you'll value it, if you'll value your time with Me, and if you'll not neglect your Word time, you'll find that those seeds will do tremendous good within you. They will overflow onto others and you'll be the sample of love, joy, happiness, and understanding that you so long to be. ⁽³⁰⁾

Just Do It

I expect you to do the things that I've asked of you for your own spiritual survival and usefulness to Me. ⁽³¹⁾

Love for the Word comes by living in the Word. The more you live it, the more you'll love it. ⁽³²⁾

Ask yourself how you plan to practice what you've just read-not just in the future or as a good thing to implement someday, when it's convenient, but this very day-today!

Is there some area of your life where you've been lacking a little conviction or haven't been fully obedient? Change it today! Do it now! Just do it, and you'll get the most wonderful feeling of spiritual satisfaction, even if it is tough at first! That's part of My reward to you for obedience. ⁽³³⁾

Let the motto "just do it" be yours. When it comes to obedience and implementing My Word, just do something, anything, no matter how it doesn't seem to be hitting the mark or how simple it might seem. Doing something, however simple, is much better than delaying until you feel you can get it together to "do it right." Doing it

at all is doing it right.

The Word revolution is about quality Word time, meditation, and application. Application is another word for obedience. Obedience is your greatest protection against Obstacon's attacks. As long as you're obeying, he will be defeated, but if you're not obeying, while he might be shooed away for a while, he'll keep coming back, in another costume, with another approach. So obedience is crucial.

Pick one thing, and do that; then pick another one thing, and do that. Little by little, you will build new habits. But if you try to do too much, you'll give up. Don't focus on the details and the overall picture, which is huge, but take one step at a time. That's easy, that's doable, and that will lead to faith, encouragement, and lasting progress. ⁽³⁴⁾

Seek Me after you read something to see if you really got the point--My point. I don't want you to sit and read something just for the sake of reading. I want it to cause a change in your life. Ask Me how you can go out and live it and practice it. Ask Me what I am expecting you to do about what you read. After you read anything, you have a responsibility. You are accountable to make those words a part of your life and a part of you. Open your channel to Me and let Me speak any words that I have for you. ⁽³⁵⁾

Tips for Getting the Most Out of Your Time in the Word

* Pray that your outlook on the Word changes, that you truly realize its importance and that you value it more highly. Pray for a hunger and desperation for the Word. Pray for a greater interest in the Word and My counsel and viewpoints.

* Remind yourself constantly that the Word is what the Family is all about. It's not about your job, your service, or your ministry, but the Word. If your Word times aren't good, then everything else will be amiss. If you're not happy with your Word times, then you need to ask yourself why and change something. Continually go back to the Word.

* Hold yourself accountable to get quality time in the Word daily. Don't let a day go by in which you don't get quality Word time. Bump other things off your to-do list when necessary. Always take your Word time.

* Plan and prepare your Word time more. Make a list of the many things that you're going to read, and work through that list.

* Make a file on your computer or keep a notebook where you can accumulate key quotes that speak to you, and share them with others. This will keep the Word flowing through your mind.

* Don't let Word that "jumps out at you" die the death when you turn the page. Make note of it, mark it as a point to ask Me about, and highlight it and reread it.

Rereading highlights is a key that many people overlook, because they feel that if they've just finished reading something, they've gotten the point; whereas rereading crystallizes the point and helps you to absorb it better. The first time you're just assimilating the concept, whereas the second time it can sink in much more. Help Me out by rereading your highlights.

* Take more time to pray and connect with Me before you begin reading. Memorize some of your favorite key promises on connecting with Me and the Word. Claim them every time before you start having Word time. If you find your thoughts wandering or losing focus, stop and claim the keys again. Pray. Don't let your Word time lose quality. Your time is valuable. You need to be fed during your Word time, and My Word deserves the respect of your full attention.

* Enact safeguards that will check and convict you when you slip. Have someone that you're responsible to tell if you've shirked on your Word time, or if you didn't get quality Word time. Don't just let it slide by. Pray and ask for My forgiveness, so that there is some accountability. Hear from Me about it. Let Me correct you and motivate you to do better. ⁽³⁶⁾

(Dad speaking:) You can do better to spend time with Him, and to obey His counsel. Here are some ways how:

* Pray desperately before and after each of your Word times, calling on the power of the keys, asking the Lord to open your heart and mind, and to help you to suck. Pray that the Word will sink deep into your heart and mind; that it will grow in your life, change you, and bear fruit. Ask the Lord to open your eyes that you might behold wondrous things out of His Law.

* Lay everything else aside during your times with the Lord and give Him your full attention. If you find your mind wandering, stop right there and pray desperately, asking for help to tune in and to suck.

* Don't just read, but study. Take note of and mark parts that especially speak to you. Then go back and review them at the end.

* Pray at the end of each Word time and ask the Lord if there's anything more that He wants to show you.

* Follow through on the counsel given; make goals for yourself. ⁽³⁷⁾

Memorization and review is an important part of absorbing the Word. It helps to take a key paragraph, verse, or key promise and "chew on it," so you get all the juices from it and let it dissolve and absorb well into your spiritual body.

You simply need to obey and get back in the groove of memorizing. As you practice, it will become easier. The more you memorize, the easier it will get, till you will be able to easily commit things to memory. ⁽³⁸⁾

Something that you will need to do is come back to Me from time to time for an evaluation of how you're doing in your Word-time habits, so that I can speak to you about areas you're slacking off in, give you new ideas to revitalize your Word time, show you what type of studies you need to work on next, etc. You might not always follow a particular plan to the T, and mid-month or mid-week I will often bring something to your mind to read up on that wasn't in the plan. But it's still always good to have a more long-term plan. ⁽³⁹⁾

1. Getting Stronger, Part 4 #3544:45
2. Getting Stronger, Part 4 #3544:56-59
3. Problems and Solutions! Part 1 #3069:35, 36
4. Leadership Lessons, Part 1 #3347:138, 139
5. Getting Stronger, Part 4 #3544:47-50
6. Getting Stronger, Part 4 #3544:54
7. Quality Word Time, Part 2 #3563:4, 5
8. Quiet Time--Your Lifesaver! #3183:65, 71
9. Training Winning Teams, Part 1 #3551:41
10. Quality Word Time, Part 1 #3549:33
11. Quality Word Time, Part 2 #3563:26
12. What the Hell is Lethargy? #3482:48
13. What the Hell is Lethargy? #3482:42
14. Quality Word Time, Part 2 #3563:57
15. Quality Word Time, Part 2 #3563:11
16. The Spiritual Health Revolution! #3184:157-159
17. The Spiritual Health Revolution! #3184:3-38
18. What Is Jesus Worth to You? #3433:324, 325
19. What Is Jesus Worth to You? #3433:334-336
20. Beyond Duty, Part 1 #3749:141-144
21. Quality Word Time, Part 3 #3568:38
22. Quality Word Time, Part 3 #3568:29-31
23. Quality Word Time, Part 4 #3582:82-84
24. Quality Word Time, Part 1 #3549:36, 38
25. Quality Word Time, Part 4 #3582:49
26. Quality Word Time, Part 4 #3582:35, 36
27. Quality Word Time, Part 3 #3568:21, 22
28. Quality Word Time, Part 3 #3568:10, 11
29. Quality Word Time, Part 4 #3582:3, 4
30. Being Re-created! #3346:64, 65
31. Spiritual Attacks Intensified! #3255:144
32. Quality Word Time, Part 1 #3549:52
33. Quality Word Time, Part 1 #3549:50, 51
34. Quality Word Time, Part 1 #3549:66-68
35. Quality Word Time, Part 3 #3568:36
36. Quality Word Time, Part 1 #3549:69-76
37. What the Hell is Lethargy? #3482:136
38. Quality Word Time, Part 4 #3582:21, 23
39. Quality Word Time, Part 4 #3582:7