The Discipline of Study

This Chapter starts out with one of my favorite verses in Philippians, it talks about what to “Think” about. A common thing is seeing in this day of age is the ignorance when it comes to thinking. Hearing people say, “I just thought about X it’s not like I went out and participated”. When you see in the Bible, Jesus clearly states that if you think about adultery you committed adultery. This verse is talking about filling your mind and your thoughts with pure, good things. Ultimately what’s in your heart will determine what you think about. So filling our heart with studying God’s word can only positively affect us!

“Meditation is devotional, study is analytical.” This quote by Richard J Foster really opened my eyes to different things. When starting this chapter, I was interpreting both study and meditation as the same thing, with further inspection the difference has been made known. Meditation is the act of reading and reflecting on God’s word and His work. While study is reading and understand the word of God and His work. We have devotionals to draw near to God, we study to better understand God and His divine work!

Study is not limited to books or lectures, but rather expands to many other aspects, things like events, tragedies, etc. We can study these things and learn so much about God and the world! When we research a major crisis, when it is happening it’s hard to see the facts and what’s real or not. Afterward when we look back on the event and see the facts is when we begin to understand and study!

The process of studying varies per person but ultimately has the same steps, repetition, concentration, comprehension, and reflection.

To conclude this journal the final point that stood out to me was the quote of Psalm 119:9,11. These verses talks about taking the word of God and hiding it in your heart, this verse is one that helped me out of a very dark time in my life, and beginning with memorizing this verse and studying it I began to see change in my life.

Thanks!

Koleman Parsley