

Spiritual Disciplines

Growing Your Relationship with God

MODULE 3 – SECTION 2 : Part 1 OUTLINE

PART 1 — Growing in the Word

1. Why the Word Matters

- Scripture is essential for spiritual growth (2 Tim 3:16).
- We need the Word to live as God intends (2 Chr 17:7–9; Ps 119:19).
- The Word sustains us like food (Matt 4:4).
- Growth in the Word produces fruit (Col 1:9–10; Phil 1:6; 2 Pet 3:18).

2. The Word in Two Forms

- **Written Word** — The Bible (2 Tim 3:16–17).
- **Living Word** — Jesus Christ (John 1:1–14; Rev 19:11–13).

3. Benefits of Studying Scripture

- Comfort and peace (Isa 26:3; Ps 29:11).
- Clarity and direction (Prov 3:5–6).
- Inner strength and resilience (Eph 3:16–19).
- Spiritual growth and fulfilment (2 Pet 3:17–18).
- Stronger faith foundation.
- Hope in difficult times.
- Community and connection (1 Cor 12:25–27).

4. Reading vs Studying

- **Reading** = passive intake.
- **Studying** = active engagement, analysis, and application.

5. How to Study Effectively

- Right attitude and consistency.
- Set a dedicated time and place.

- Keep a record; write revelations.
- Pray before, during, and after.
- Look for insights, commands, and promises.

6. Bible Study Methods

- **Daily Devotional**
- **Word Study** (keywords, concordance, versions)
- **Topical Study** (themes like healing, salvation)
- **Character Study**
- **Book Study** (big picture, repeated reading)
- **Meditation** (internalising truth)

7. Developing Knowledge of the Word

- Hearing (Rom 10:17)
- Reading (Rev 1:3)
- Studying (Acts 17:11)
- Meditating (Ps 1:2–3)
- Memorising (Ps 119:9,11)

8. Interpretation Principles

- Ordinary meaning
- Contextual meaning
- Comparative meaning
- Ask: Why is this included? What is implied?
- Avoid bias; stay prayerful.

9. Searching & Preparing the Word

- Depend on the Holy Spirit (John 14:26).
- Pray for guidance.
- Read attentively.
- Reflect, research, compare translations.
- Use cross-references.

- Seek counsel when needed.