

How We Grow: Practicing the Spiritual Disciplines
Small Group Discussion Questions
Week Seven - Study

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Outside the Bible, what book, teacher, lecture, etc. have had the most profound impact on your spiritual life?
2. What is your favorite time of the day? When do you feel most energetic, alive and able to concentrate?
3. In your own words, describe what “study” means to you, and also, what it does not mean?
4. In the Old Testament, the Israelites were instructed to write the laws on gates and doorposts and bind them to their wrists so that “Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads.” (Deuteronomy 11:18). The purpose of this instruction was to direct their minds repeatedly and regularly towards God, and his instructions on human relationships. Today, we no longer take part in that practice. But how can we discipline ourselves to regularly and repeatedly study God’s words to make it easier for his laws to be written in our hearts? What motivates you?
5. We live hectic, busy lives, and we are often pulled in many different directions. How can we positively encourage one another in the discipline of study?
6. What, in your mind, are the differences between hearing, reading, and studying God’s Word?
7. What are some methods of bible study that have worked for you? Share tips with each other in your group so you can possibly discover new ideas for growing in your discipline of study.
8. What are some bible study resources you have used that have transformed your spiritual walk? Share with the group.
9. As a group, spend some time in prayer, asking God to direct and bless your personal and collective study, so that you can know our Lord better and respond to him more fully. Ask God to help each member to prioritize his or her life, so we can make adequate time to seek God through study.