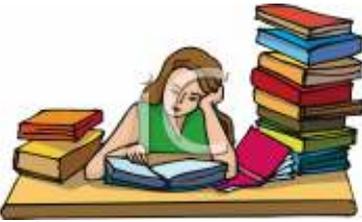




Daily Devotion

Introduction

"One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple." (Psalm 27:4)



King David is a man of deep spiritual devotion to God. Psalm 27:4 is one such verse that expresses King David's deepest desire to seek God daily. He said, "one thing have I desired of the LORD, that will

one's desire in putting to practice what God has revealed to one during the time of devotion. Very often, we call this time of devotion Quiet Time (QT). Hence, daily devotion is also spending Quality Time with God, our Heavenly Father.

b) How do we have QT?

The QT can be best organized in the following ways:

- i. Prayer
- ii. Bible reading
- iii. Meditation

**"One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple."
(Psalm 27:4)**

I seek after" – it is a sincere outward manifestation to seek and follow God in every way and all the way in life. This "one thing" man seeks to dwell in the holy presence of GOD to worship and to pray to God continuously. Such is the state of mind that is fully devoted to God! We need to have daily devotion with God the way King David did.

a) What is daily devotion?

Our daily devotion to God is a time of consecration. It is a time set apart from our daily routines to spend it with the Heavenly Father in prayer, pondering, and praising God. The outcome of a sweet devotion is

No QT is complete without prayer and praise. Some people adopt the **ACTS** principle for prayer. 'A' stands for adoration. We should spend some moments worshipping and offer God our adorations by acknowledging Who He is. 'C' stands for confession. We need to ask God to search our hearts and confess any known sins to Him. Only God can forgive our sins. Hence, it is very important to confess our sins before God. This is also part of the lifelong sanctification process that every child of God must undertake. 'T' stands for thanksgiving. Recently, I learnt that not only we must come to God with thanks-giving; we must also practice thanks-

(Continued on page 2)

Corrigendum

There will be **NO** Sunday School on **29th** April due to the ACM instead of 22nd as announced in the previous issue of Lively Stones. The Editorial apologies for any confusion caused.

Announcements: A gentle reminder to collect your ACM package after worship service **TODAY**.

Next issue: We will get to know more about the Young Teens Department as they have their Promotional Sunday.

(Continued from page 1)

living – living a life of thanksgiving. The Apostle Paul instructs us in 1 Thessalonians 5:18, *“In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”* Yes, every child of God must learn to practice thanks-living daily. ‘S’ stands for supplication. This is the part that most people will start with in prayer – asking God for His blessings on our life. While it is important to ask the Heavenly Father for blessings, it is more important to come to God in adoration, confession and thanksgiving first.

c) What materials to use?

The primary material for our QT is the Word of God – the Bible. While we may use additional materials such as Our Daily Walk by F B Meyer, or Charles Spurgeon and a great many others, the most important source is the Bible. We need to listen to God first and then add other spiritual appetiser and deserts along the way. There should be no shortcut replacement of the Bible by merely rushing through Daily Bread or Our Daily Walk devotional readings. If we do that, then we are missing out God’s special blessings altogether. Bible reading is the next important element in our QT apart from prayers.

d) How do we meditate?

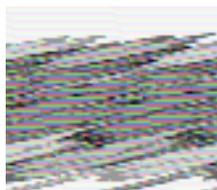
Meditation is a time of pondering, reflection and contemplation. It is right to consider God’s Word carefully by pondering and reflecting upon what has been read in God’s Word. Some times, it may mean reading the same passage many times just to get the right sense and right context of the scriptures. Meditation means deliberately spending time to think

over and over God’s Word. During the process of meditation, one seeks the mind of God and asks Him to help one to apply God’s truth in one’s life. The result of proper QT is a soul refreshed in the LORD! Praise the Lord for giving us His Word and for giving us QT. Our soul is being fed daily as we engage God through QT.

Conclusion

How consistent we keep our QT is an indication of our state of spiritual health. A spiritually healthy child of God will desire to spend time having QT with God. Like King David, he desired to be with the LORD all day long. Our daily devotion is also an indicator of how close we are to the LORD and how well are we living in the centre of His will everyday. The quality of our QT is also a measurement of our spiritual maturity. The Apostle Peter says, *“As new born babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby.”* (1 Peter 2:2) God’s Word is like a mirror reflecting our true self to us. The child of God is God’s Living Bible. While the world may not read the written Word of God, they do read our daily life like a Living Bible. We need to be in tune with God by having daily QT. Once our life is synchronized with God’s Word, we become a very strong witness to His saving grace. In this way, the non-believing world will be attracted to Christ through our daily Christian living. May the Lord be pleased to use our lives to touch other lives! Come and be strengthened by the Lord through daily devotions. Amen.

Elder Sherman Ong



BIBLE QUIZ...

1. In Psalm 1, what does the blessed man do?
2. In Psalm 119:9, how does the young man cleanse his ways?
3. Complete Matthew 6:33: “Seek ye first _____”
4. Who were John the Baptist’s parents? (Luke 1)
5. Who was the first martyr in the early church history? Name the reference.
6. Why was the church in Laodicea in danger of being “spewed out” of Christ’s mouth? (Revelations 3)
7. For what high purpose did Peter advise believing wives to submit to their unbelieving husbands? (1 Peter 3)

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Back issues can be viewed at <http://www.lifebpc.com/othermin/sslivelystones.htm>