

5. Say the verse out loud as you memorize it.
6. Say the reference, the verse, the reference again (*then you will memorize the reference*).
7. Pray about the verse.
8. Apply the verse to your life.
9. Share the verse with others.

What is a Beneficial Method?

Use a small notebook (steno notebook).

- Do 1, 2, or 3 devotions per page.
- First Line: day – date – number – verses read
- Other Lines: most significant verse or phrase
- Other Lines: verse-related prayer, etc.

Day 1

Write similar info across the first line:

Sun	11/23	1	Gen 1:1-5
[Day of week]	[Date]	[Days]	[Read]

What are Days? The consecutive days in a row you have completed your daily devotion without missing; if you miss, go back to 1. *Writing the number of consecutive days will encourage you to do a Daily Devotion EVERY DAY!*

What is Read? Write the Bible book, chapter, and verses you read today.

Other Lines = Verse: Write-out the most significant *verse* or *phrase* you read today.

Other Lines = Prayer: Write-out a prayer, etc. that is related to your verse or phrase.

Now: **READ** the verse and **PRAY** the prayer.

Day 2 and Following

- Read the verse and pray the prayer from day 1 or the previous day.
- Follow the Day 1 steps on day 2 and on each of the following days.

Once Each Week

- Go back seven days; then read each verse and pray each prayer up to the present day. As you read and pray, notice how God has been at work to answer your prayers!

CHALLENGE

- Continue without missing for 21 days!

SUPER CHALLENGE

- Continue for the rest of your life!

Daily Devotional Booklets

Available at Bethlehem; each day includes a Bible passage, devotion, and prayer:

- Portals of Prayer (Concordia—LCMS) – Written by pastors and laypeople; shorter; *each day stands alone*.
- Meditations (Northwestern—WELS) – Written by pastors; longer; *one passage is covered each week*.

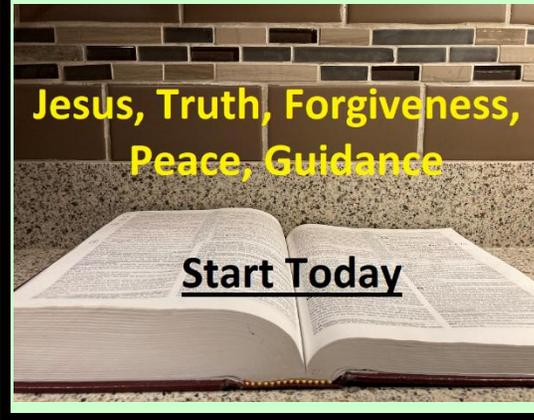
Connect and Benefit

- Website:** BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com
- Location:** 7500 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134
(Just South of Pleasant Valley Road)
- Facebook:** "Bethlehem Lutheran Church Parma"
- Podcast:** "Benefit from the Bible"
- Contact:** 440-845-2230

(Last Update: 7-21)

Daily Devotion

- Why Is It Necessary?
- What Are Some Benefits?
- How Do I Get Started?
- What Is a Beneficial Method?



Introduction

Spending time in Daily Devotion includes:

- Listening to God – *through the Bible*.
- Talking to God – *through prayer*.

Listening and *talking* are normal parts of any relationship. Since our sin ended our relationship with God, He took action to restore our relationship through Jesus' sinless living and sacrificial dying. Now, by grace through faith, Jesus is our Savior, we are members of God's family, and the Holy Spirit is living within us. So let us grow in knowing the Holy Trinity!

Why Is It Necessary?

- It feeds our spiritual lives: ^{NAS} **Matthew 4:4** Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.
- It firmly roots us in Christ: ^{NAS} **Colossians 2:6-7** As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith...
- It shows our relationship with Jesus: ^{NAS} **John 8:31-32** If you abide in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

What Are Some Benefits?

- Receive a daily message from God!
- Respond to God's message in prayer!
- Grow in your knowledge of the Bible!
- Grow in your faith in Jesus Christ!
- Learn about God's will for your life!
- Be better equipped to live for Christ!
- See God's hand of blessing in your life!

God's version of *prosperity and success*:

- ^{NAS} **Joshua 1:8** This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success.

- ^{NAS} **Psalm 1:1-3** How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of scoffers! But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night. ³ And he will be like a tree *firmly* planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither; and in whatever he does, he prospers.

How Do I Get Started?

- **Find your Bible.** *If you need a Bible, please ask; we will gladly provide one!*
- **Find a quiet place.**
- **Choose a place in the Bible to begin:**
Here are some ideas:
 - Genesis – The first eleven chapters are *super-significant* (*creation, marriage, fall, Savior, sacrifice, clothes, flood, languages, and more*)!
 - The Gospel of John – It has 21 chapters; *read one chapter per day for the next three weeks!*
 - Ephesians – The first three chapters tell of God's super-powerful work to save us; the second three tell us how to function in our daily lives as God's forgiven children.
- **Start reading and/or listening** (*short and daily is better than longer and infrequent*):
 - You can read the Bible.
 - You can listen to the Bible being read – using a smart phone, tablet, computer, CD, etc.

- You can read and listen by following the words in the Bible as you listen to it being read.
- **Follow these helpful tips** as you read and/or listen:
 - **Hear:** Pay attention *because God is speaking to you!*
 - **Read:** Read carefully *because God wants to bless you!*
 - **Mark:** Underline key words or phrases *to remember them!*
 - **Learn:** Begin to *apply God's Word to your daily life!*
 - **Inwardly Digest:** Allow God's Word to *direct your thoughts, words, and deeds!*
 - **Memorize:** With super-important verses, write them on your heart, so you can ♦think about them anytime, ♦better understand them, ♦live them, and ♦share them! Here are some Scripture Memory tips:
 1. Read the context of the verse (*at least a few verses before and after*).
 2. Rightly understand the verse (*consult a Study Bible, a Bible commentary, a pastor*).
 3. Learn the reference and the first phrase (*say it over and over*).
 4. Add a phrase; then repeat all you have learned.

The tips continue on the back!