

# Philosophy of Devotions

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What are devotions?

- A designated time for personal worship through the \_\_\_\_\_ of Bible reading and prayer.
  - 2 Timothy 2:15 - *Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*
- This purpose of the discipline is to allow God to have \_\_\_\_\_ with you (relationship building), \_\_\_\_\_ you from sin (reviving), and to \_\_\_\_\_ you in Christ likeness (restoration).
  - 2 Corinthians 3:18 - *But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.*
  - Colossians 3:10 - *And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him.*

It's a time for:

1. Connecting to God
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ Place – shutting out the noise
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ Place – removing distractions
2. Communion with God
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ the Word – Bible Reading and study
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ to God – Prayer
    - i. Praise – Psalm 135:1 - *Praise ye the LORD. Praise ye the name of the LORD; praise him, O ye servants of the LORD.*
    - ii. Power - Jeremiah 33:3 – *Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.*
3. Confession and Cleansing from sin
  - a. Confession – 1 John 1:9 - *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*
  - b. Cleansing – James 4:8 - *Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.*
4. Consecration for God
  - a. Dedication – Submitting to God's Word and \_\_\_\_\_ to His will.
    - i. Psalm 19:11 - *Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.*
  - b. Preparation – Learning from the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Bible.
    - i. Psalm 19:11, 12 - *Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward. Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults.*

- c. Application – Putting in to \_\_\_\_\_ the truths and principles found in the Bible.
  - i. Psalm 119:105 – *Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

It's not used as:

1. An opportunity to build \_\_\_\_\_ in our spiritual account
  - a. We are spiritual bankrupt, and it's only by His grace that \_\_\_\_\_ us to fellowship with Him.
    - i. Ephesians 2:1 – *And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and in sins.*
    - ii. Matthew 5:3 - *Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*
    - iii. Titus 3:5 - *Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.*
2. For Emergencies or Crisis
  - a. Our fellowship with God in is deeper than a surgical \_\_\_\_\_ to fix us.
3. A self-help tool for the purpose \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_. (pop psychology)
  - a. Although it is true that when spend time building our faith in God we will see earthly blessings, our focus in worship is not ourselves but rather in God.
4. It's not a checklist to \_\_\_\_\_ the Holy Spirit.

Common Hang Ups

1. I must \_\_\_\_\_ - a quantity amount of time.
  - a. It's not as important to schedule a time or a timeframe as it is that you are fellowshiping with God. God is looking to develop a healthy relationship with you. Quality is better than Quantity when it comes time with God.
  - b. Tip: Take baby steps. Children have short attention spans, and so do baby Christians.
    - i. Pray through Psalm
2. The early \_\_\_\_\_ time is no necessarily is the right(eous) time.
  - a. As a general rule the morning time is the best for us as we place him first in priority of our day. (Psalm 63:1) If your body has a harder time focusing in the morning or if your work schedule makes it difficult to fit in devotions in the morning.
  - b. Tip: Set a time you know there will be minimal interruptions.
    - i. Journal your prayers.
    - ii. Walk and pray.
3. I do them when I feel the spiritual \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. The pendulum swings to the direction of apathy and inconsistency when there is no set time in your schedule for God.
  - b. Tip: Set a reminder until you can develop a habit.