



WEEKLY CELL GUIDE

31 JAN 2021 | The Spiritual Discipline of Scripture Living | [Psalm 19:7-14](#)
Series: The Spiritual Discipline of Scripture Living | **Speaker:** Lam Zhengxin



WELCOME

[15 MINS]

You may want to look up the following websites for icebreakers suitable for your cell.

[Ice Breakers 1](#)
[Ice Breakers 2](#)



WORSHIP

[15 MINS]

You may select songs like

1. Build My Life
 2. Be Thou My Vision
-



WORD

[45 MINS]

SPIRITUAL OBJECTIVES

At the end of the sermon discussion, cell members will:

1. Understand that it is important to build the discipline of reading God's Word; and
2. Learn how to meditate on God's Word, internalise it and live it out as disciples of Christ.

SERMON SUMMARY

The Word of God is a treasure we should cherish, and it has everything we need for spiritual maturity and growth. Therefore, we are to read it, meditate on it, and obey it. Ultimately, the Word of God is God's personal word to us. It should cause us to grow in our relationship with Him and not just in our knowledge of Him.

SERMON RECAP

1. The Characteristics of God's Word:

a. **The Law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul (v7a)**

- Zhengxin shared that reading God's Word is the only way to grow spiritually.
- No amount of good sermons, worship sets or Christian books can replace the spiritual discipline of reading God's Word. They are merely supplementary sources.
- The Word of God is sufficient for all our spiritual nourishment.
- Scripture is God's primary way to transform us - God has revealed Himself directly to us through His Word.

b. **The Testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple (v7b)**

- We live in an age of fake news, and one that is filled with conflicting messages.
- In contrast, the Word of God is sure, and we can build our lives on this firm foundation.
- We can trust in its certainty - that the future will be what God's word says it will be, despite the uncertainties we are experiencing now.
- The Word of God assures us that God is in control. We can trust that His grace and mercy will sustain us through difficult times.
- "*Simple*" is someone who is open to be taught – openness of heart when we read Scripture, is crucial. We must not bring along our pre-conceived notions. We must allow Scripture to confront our lifestyle and exercise its authority over us.

c. **The Precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart (v8a)**

- In our world today, there is a high value placed on happiness. The starting point is self.
- In the Bible, instead of happiness, joy is highly esteemed, and it is the fruit of walking in God's ways. The starting point is God.
- When we walk in the commandments of God, we start to live according to God's design. When we live out the Word of God, there is a joy and peace that comes with being right with God.

2. The Delight of reading and living God's word

- a. Like the psalmist, is the Word of God a delight to us?
- b. 3 stages in our Bible reading journey: **Duty – Discipline – Delight**
- c. As long as we persist with the habit of reading God, we will discover joy in His Word.

3. How to approach the Word of God

a. **Study it**

- It is important that we engage the mind when we read God's Word. There needs to be right understanding.
- While we can rely on commentaries, the best commentary is the Bible itself.
- The more we read the Bible, the clearer it will get.

b. **Meditate on it**

- If all we do is study God's Word, all we might become is a student, and not necessarily a disciple.
- Meditating on God's Word helps bring what is in our heads into our hearts.

c. **Live it out.**

- The written Word needs to become the living Word.
- We need to translate Scripture reading to become "Scripture living."
- We need the Word of God to act as a mirror to our ways, to show us our blind spots, so that we do not end up justifying our sinful or idolatrous actions.

May we be a people who are obedient to God's Word, and to allow Scripture to correct us, so that Scripture reading becomes "Scripture living" in our lives.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What is your experience with the Word of God? Has it been a delight for you or has it been a struggle for you to dedicate time to read it?** [10 min]

Leader's Notes

Zhengxin talks about the journey of reading God's Word – Duty, Discipline and Delight. For some of us, it has been more of a duty or a discipline we have to cultivate, while for others, it is a daily delight. The goal of this question is for cell members to share their struggles in approaching God's Word and to encourage one another on their journey to reading God's Word. As a cell, discuss together how you can support one another to read God's Word more consistently. This can include using RLC's 2-Year Bible Reading Plan, sharing what they have learn daily in the chatgroup, etc.

Transition

For some, it is a discipline/duty that needs to be cultivated. If we currently lack the delight to read God's Word, we must incorporate a certain form of discipline/routine as a start. Slowly but surely, this discipline/duty will turn into delight as we discover treasures untold in God's Word!

- 2. Zhengxin mentions that the Word of God is always right. It is infallible. Therefore, what are the implications of this for our daily lives?** [15 min]

Leader's Notes

When we say that the Word of God is infallible, it means the Bible is incapable of teaching anything wrong or teach any error. (Refer [here](#) for a more detailed explanation on this.) As God is light and there is no darkness in Him ([1 John 1:5](#)), His Words are truth ([Psalm 119:160](#)) and are for our good ([Psalm 1:2-3](#)). If we want to live to our fullest potential, we would then be wise to heed what God says in His Word. The implications of this truth is that:

- We should live according to how the Bible wants us to live in every arena of our lives. (eg. how we manage finances, how we parent, how we develop or shape our character, how we view our jobs, how we view and live out the purpose of our lives, etc)
- God's promises to us are true. We can take God at His Word! ([2 Peter 1:4](#))
- We must live in light of His coming. Scripture, over and over again, promises that Jesus will return and make all things new. Therefore, if we believe in this Word, we must live our lives in the light of it.

Transition

One of the biggest problems for Christians is that although we believe that God's Word is true and infallible, our lives do not reflect this truth. We continue to live according to the desire of our hearts and not according to the Word of God. Therefore, let us make 2021 a year where we are intentional in our efforts to know God's Word, to meditate on it, and to live it out. (*Note: Encourage your members to journey together with the church through RLC's 2-Year Bible Reading Schedule. More information can be found in the Announcements section.*)

- 3. Zhengxin shared three handles how to approach God's Word: studying it, meditating on it, then living it out. Which handle do you think God is calling you to focus on in this season? What are some practical ways or small steps you can adopt daily to grow in approaching God's Word?** [15 min]

Leader's Notes

Zhengxin elaborated on the importance of all three handles: we have to study the Word of God, to understand it rightly; we have to meditate on the word of God to let what is in our heads sink into our hearts, and eventually, living out the Word of God. This is so that we can live out our lives in a manner worthy of God's calling and according to His will for us. Cell members can share where they are at in their Bible reading journey and which handle do they feel God calling them to focus on more in this season. The cell can brainstorm daily steps/techniques to apply these three handles in our bible reading journey, some examples are as follows:

- **To study Scripture:** When we select a verse or phrase of Scripture, we must be sure we have read the surrounding verses so that we can understand the verse or phrase in its context. We may rely on external commentaries, but the best commentary is the Bible itself.
- **To meditate on Scripture:** We should read it over several times, trying to memorize it as best we can. Then, we can slowly contemplate the verse word by word, thinking about each word and what it conveys about God, His plan, and His work in our lives. As we reflect and pray over a theologically rich passage over several days, we should take note of any new insights we gain about God or Jesus Christ, as well as reflect on the practical ways these truths can have to transform our lives.
- **To live out Scripture:** When we begin to hide God’s Word in our hearts (Psalm 119:11), it enables us to filter our lives through the lens of Scripture. The Holy Spirit will help us apply the Bible to our lives, as He whispers His love and directions for us and serve as a mirror to our ways. Our part is to obey the Holy Spirit as we walk in God’s ways and uphold His truth in our lives.

Closing

[2 Timothy 3:16](#) teaches us that all Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives- it corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. Let us remember that our goal in reading the Bible is to get to know God’s ways and to understand His purpose for the world and for ourselves, and to be transformed into His likeness daily. May we be a people who are obedient to God’s Word, and to allow Scripture to correct us, so that Scripture reading becomes “Scripture living” in our lives.



Consider dividing the group into micro-groups for a deeper time of sharing as well as praying for the following items:

1. Sermon Application

- RiverLifers would make the Word of God central in the way they live their lives. They would seek to read it, meditate on it and to live it out!

2. COVID-19

- Continue to pray for God’s protection over our countries and surrounding nations as we continue to battle this pandemic. Pray that all vaccines will be effective in their fight against the virus.



1. **Bible Reading Plan.** You can access our 2-Year Bible Reading Plan 2021-2022 by visiting <https://rlc.sg/brp2021>.
2. **TraceTogether.** The use of TraceTogether app or token for check-in to our church premises will be mandatory from Sat, 23 Jan. 21
3. **Water Baptism Class.** 20 Feb, 9am – 12pm. Faith Chapel. Register for this class at <rlc.sg/baptism-class> by Sun, 14 Feb. For enquiries, please contact Karen Koh at karenkoh@riverlife.org.sg.

4. **Ticketing For 250 In-Person Services.** Sun, 7 Feb: In-person service for 250 pax commences at 9am & 11am for all. Booking of tickets for this service will open on Sun, 31 Jan at 2pm via rlc.sg/tickets-eng.
5. **CNY Weekend.**
- *Sat, 13 Feb.* Chinese service as per normal at 10am. No Youth Service.
 - *Sun, 14 Feb.* English service at 9am only. 11am service will resume on 21 Feb.



"HONOUR GOD WITH EVERYTHING YOU OWN;
GIVE HIM THE FIRST AND THE BEST."
PROVERBS 3:9 (MSG)

Give Digitally

Here are two cashless ways to give your tithes and offering.

1. PayNow

Log in to your bank's existing mobile banking app.
Scan this QR code on the right.

SCAN ME



2. Interbank Transfer

RiverLife Church Bank Account:
DBS Autosave 029-902431-0
Bank Code: 7171
Branch Code: 029

