

Steps of Transformation
Proverbs 2:1-10
Knowledge and Perspective

In a recent chapel on campus, Chuck Swindoll listed the following six reasons why it is important to pursue knowledge of the Scriptures:

1. Knowledge gives substance to faith.
2. Knowledge stabilizes us during times of testing.
3. Knowledge enables us to handle the Word of God accurately.
4. Knowledge equips us to detect and confront error.
5. Knowledge makes us confident and consistent in our walk with God.
6. Knowledge filters out our fears and superstitions.

I) **Information we Attain** (My Words and My Commandments)

A. Received through Instruction

Instruction - The act or process of imparting knowledge or skills to another;

Proverbs 23:12

12 Apply thine heart unto instruction, and thine ears to the words of knowledge.

Proverbs 1:7

7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

B. Retained through Incorporation

Incorporate - To unite or work into something already existent so as to form an indistinguishable whole

Psalms 119:11

11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

James 1:22

22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

II) **Instruments we Activate** (Ears, Heart, Mouth)

A. Ears – Listening

Incline – prick up the ears, hearken (give respectful attention)

B. Mouth – Looking

C. Heart – Loving

Apply – (natah – to stretch)

Psalms 119:2

2 Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart.

Psalms 119:10

10 With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.

Psalms 119:34

34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart.

Psalms 119:145

145 I cried with my whole heart; hear me, O Lord: I will keep thy statutes.

III) **Initiative we Apply** (Seek as a Treasure)

A. Value that's Placed (Silver and Treasures)

Psalms 119:72

72 The law of thy mouth is better unto me than thousands of gold and silver.

Psalms 119:127

127 Therefore I love thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold.

B. Vigilance that's Practiced (Seekest and Searchest)

Silver is mined out of the ground it must be dug out!!!!

Life Group Questions

1. Why is it so important to never stop learning?
2. **In the List given in the introduction of the Message which of the six reasons for pursuing knowledge most fits your life and what you need right now?**
3. **Is your “Whole Heart” into acquiring knowledge when you come to the House of God?**
4. List some reasons that you think people give for not applying themselves fully to learning the word?
5. **What value if any have you placed on the “Word”, and Why? (Now be real honest with your answer because your behavior toward it tells the value you have placed on it)**
6. What can the church do to help motivate you to begin your pursuit of knowledge? (Leaders I would like to know these answers)