

# **A Laborer's Life with God**

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## I. Introduction.

A. We must live a balanced lifestyle.

B. We must have the Word of God, prayer, fellowship with other believers and witness to unbelievers.

B. We have life by “consuming” the Word. (John 6)

## II. Blessings of the Scripture.

A. Growth. (Acts 20:32)

B. Victory over sin and Satan. (Psalm 119:11, 1 John 2:14)

C. Cleansing. (John 15:3, Ephesians 5:26, Psalm 119:5)

D. Guidance. (Psalm 119:105)

E. Joy. (John 15:11)

## III. Ways to approach Scripture.

A. Historically. We must first discover what the Word meant in its historical context.

B. Devotionally.

1. We must read devotionally after reading historically.

2. Look for...

a. Commands to obey.

b. Examples to follow.

c. Errors to avoid.

d. Blessings to enjoy.

e. Promises to claim.

## IV. Practical application on obtaining the promises. (2 Peter 1)

A. Grace always precedes peace.

B. Growing in the knowledge of Christ is according to the Hebrew concept of knowledge. It is experiential.

C. We grow in intimacy with Christ by appropriating the promises of God.

D. General promises.

1. For temptation. (1 Corinthians 10:13)
2. For forgiveness. (1 John 1:9)

E. Specific promises.

1. Paul was given a promise regarding the Gentiles. (Acts 13, Isaiah 42, 49)
2. Guidelines.
  - a. The test of Scripture.
  - b. The test of time.
  - c. The test of godly counsel.
  - d. The test of conditions. (Exodus 17)
3. God makes and keeps promises for his glory. (2 Corinthians 1:20)

F. Suggestions.

1. Personal life.
2. Family life. (Romans 15:13; Isaiah 49:25; 54:13; Philippians 2:22)
3. Ministry. (1 Samuel 10:26, Isaiah 58:10-12)

**Application questions:**

1. Why must Scripture be read historically before devotionally?

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2. What is the difference between the general promises and specific promises?

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3. How can one go about obtaining personal promises for his or her life? Explain.

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