

Dear Friends, In making disciples in accordance with Matthew 28: 18-20, we've observed certain disciplines used by people of all ages and backgrounds as ways to follow Jesus Christ consistently. We've especially noted the benefit of spending undistracted time alone with God (UTAWG as Darin likes to describe it!). Darin emails morning devotionals like these below as samples from the **One Year Bible**, which we'd like to send you for using in any way that helps you model having daily time in the Word.

1 Timothy 4:7-8 (Holman Christian Standard Bible - HCSB with all of these passages given for today from the One Year Bible: Jeremiah 33-34; 1 Timothy 4; Psalm 89:1-13; Proverbs 25:23-24)

7 But have nothing to do with irreverent and silly myths. Rather, train yourself in godliness, 8 for the training of the body has a limited benefit, but godliness is beneficial in every way, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

What did I learn about God?

God doesn't necessarily consider it self-reliant or legalistic for His people at times to feel tired from spending hours daily doing Scripture memory or other spiritual disciplines as part of godly training.

What difference does this make in my life?

Through the Holy Spirit in me along with trained effort, I'll avoid irreverence by disciplining myself to pursue holiness in my attitudes and actions.

How can this reading help me disciple men?

I'll encourage Christians to consider what it would look like if, with the same passion of a marathon runner, we gave up certain things and added a lot of time with God for the sake of following God's command to train ourselves in godliness. Also 2 Timothy 2:3-4!

2 Thessalonians 1:7-9 (New Living Translation Bible -- NLT with all of these passages given for today from the One Year Bible: Jeremiah 22:1-23:20; 2 Thessalonians 1; Psalm 83; Proverbs 25:11-14)

7 And God will provide rest for you who are being persecuted and also for us when the Lord Jesus appears from heaven. He will come with his mighty angels, 8 in flaming fire, bringing judgment on those who don't know God and on those who refuse to obey the Good News of our Lord Jesus. 9 They will be punished with eternal destruction, forever separated from the Lord and from his glorious power.

What did I learn about God?

God will give rest for His people in heaven, but unlike popular world religions, He clearly says that those who don't know Him by believing in Jesus Christ will get punished eternally away from Him in hell.

What difference does this make in my life?

I'll keep warning others of this truth even when it hurts emotionally to consider and feels awkward to say in a tolerant culture.

How can this reading help me disciple men?

I'll encourage men to tell anyone who'll listen what we know about eternity and the Good News of Jesus.