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# *Prepared to Serve: Studying to Serve*

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*New Hope Community Church  
Dr. Jack Bracy, January 20, 2019*

If I Want to Know the Will of God, I Must Know the Ways of God.

If I Am to Know the Ways of God, I Must Know the Word of God

## **How Can I Live Righteously If I Don't Know the Right Way to Live?**

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways ACKNOWLEDGE HIM, and he will make straight your paths." *Proverbs 3:5-6, ESV*

The Mental Awareness of Who God Is and The  
Consequences of Submitting to His Lordship

## **But Where and How Can I Hear God?**

Know God's Word

"Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path." *Psalms 119:105, NLT*

"How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word... "I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you." *Psalms 119:9,11, ESV*

"The LAW of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the TESTIMONY of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the PRECEPTS of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the COMMANDMENT of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; the FEAR OF THE LORD is clean, enduring forever; the RULES of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of

the honeycomb. Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward." *Psalm 19:7–11, ESV*

## The Bible Is God Speaking Directly to You

"**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." *2 Timothy 3:16, NLT***

*The Bible Is Not Merely A Collection Smart People's Thoughts, Nor Is Its Divine Thoughts in Their Own Words. The Bible Is "The Words of God" Breathed into The Writers by The Holy Spirit*

"Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet's own understanding, or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God." *2 Peter 1:20–21, NLT*

The Bible Was Given So We Could Know God,  
How to Please Him, & How to Have  
Joy, Peace & Victory in Life

## How Do I Activate the Word of God in My Life?

"This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success." *Joshua 1:8, ESV*

"This Book of The Law Shall Not Depart ..."

Meditate...

Day and Night

A Casual Pursuit of Understanding the Word  
Provides Little of Worth

Be Careful to Do According to All That Is Written in It

The Goal of All Bible Study and Meditation Is Application

"If you love me, obey my commandments." *John 14:15, NLT*

Prosperity and Success

I Set the Level of Victory in My Life.  
Not by My Own Power or Ability, but In My Investment  
to Know and Do the Word of God