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Sermon Notes

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The Key Moment of the Daily Christian Life

Hebrews 3:7-11

As we come to Hebrews 3:7-11, we come to what has become for me the most important verse in my daily Christian life. Throughout our lives, we come to a critical point of decision again and again; like a cross-roads, or a fork in the road

One way will lead to greater growth, greater fruitfulness in Christ, greater intimacy with Him, greater heavenly rewards

The other way leads... well... the other way; less fruitfulness, growing distance between us and Christ, a colder, harder heart, more unresponsive to God

And what is that critical moment? It is the moment of hearing God's voice speaking to you by the Word and by the Spirit

It is the moment the word of God hits your mind and you hear Him speaking to you through it... that moment is NOW!!! TODAY!!! Today, as a pastor, as a man, as a brother in Christ, I bring you to the central fork in the road... the essence of the rest of your life in Christ

The rest of your life in Christ will be made up of this moment, this critical moment, this ANWESOME moment: God is speaking to your heart by the Holy Spirit based on some text of Scripture

And Hebrews 3:7-8 tells you what to do... or more particularly, what NOT to do:

Hebrews 3:7-8 So, as the Holy Spirit says: "Today, if you hear his voice, ⁸ do not harden your hearts

Today, I want to exhort you with everything in my being to develop a sensitive heart toward God the Holy Spirit SPEAKING TO YOU directly BY THE WRITTEN WORD... so that 1) you recognize God's voice speaking to you as you read some Psalm or a passage from the Gospel of Matthew or some section of Romans or something in Ezekiel... and 2) when you hear God speak to you, that you do not harden your hearts but OBEY the voice of your King

This moment of hearing God speak to you BY THE SPIRIT in the BIBLE is the key moment of every day... this thing called "TODAY"... the rest of your Christian lives will be a tapestry woven of strands of thread called "TODAY" and "TODAY" and again "TODAY"... and if you can develop an ear for hearing Christ speaking to you, and if you can develop a SOFT, YIELDED HEART that obeys the voice of your King, you will lead

the best possible life, most blessed, most fruitful, most fascinating, most appeal... and MOST REWARDED by God on Judgment Day

I. “So”: A Telescoped Context

A. How Does This Passage Fit In?

1. “Context is king”
2. The Author was a brilliant handler of Scripture, unfolding piece by piece a compelling argument for continued obedience to Christ
3. We always want to see how this section fits into the bigger picture... not just of the Book of Hebrews, but also of the whole Bible

B. Context: Ours... The Hebrews’... David’s... the Exodus

1. Start with us... we live in 21st century America... what does this passage say to us?
2. As we go back... what did it say to the 1st century Hebrew Christians to which it was addressed?
3. Well, the author of Hebrews used a Psalm of David to speak directly to their situation
 - a. Remember... these are Jewish people who had made an outward profession of faith in Christ... probably confessed Him as their Messiah and been baptized in name
 - b. Under terrible persecution and pressure from their Jewish neighbors and friends, rabbis and leaders, these Jewish Christians were being strongly tempted to abandon Jesus and return to Old Covenant Judaism
 - c. The Author of Hebrews reaches back to Jewish history to WARN them against this drastic step
 - d. He does so by reaching back 1000 years before their time to a Psalm of David—Psalm 95
4. David in Psalm 95 is himself LOOKING BACK in time—500 years earlier to a period in Israel’s history... the time of the Exodus and the wandering in the desert before they entered to Promised Land
5. David is learning lessons from Israel’s experience in the desert
 - a. Israel had already been released from slavery in Egypt by the powerful arm of God through the leadership of Moses

- b. Moses was called by God to lead Israel out of Egypt, and did so by ten miraculous plagues and the awesome Red Sea crossing
- c. But as soon as the Red Sea crossing was over, Moses and Israel began to run into problems: they were in a desert, and they were 2 million or more strong! There was no food, there was no water... and they were afraid of perishing from thirst and hunger
- d. They began to murmur against Moses and against God...
- e. They came first to a place called Rephidim, where there was no water...

Exodus 17:2-3 So they quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses replied, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the LORD to the test?"³ But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?"

- f. Moses cried out to God, saying the people were about to stone him
- g. God commanded Moses to take his staff and strike a rock there in the desert, and when he did, a miraculous flow of water came out of the rock

Exodus 17:7 And he called the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites quarreled and because they tested the LORD saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

- h. Massah = (in Hebrew language) rebellion
- i. Meribah = (in Hebrew language) testing
- j. Psalm 95 in Septuagint comes across in Hebrews 2

Hebrews 3:8 do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion, during the time of testing in the desert

The Jews were openly questioning either God's love or His power... again and again in the period of time from when God brought the Jews out of Egypt until they at last entered the Promised Land under Joshua, the Jews DOUBTED God and QUESTIONED God and REBELLED against God

Exodus 17 was merely the first time... in all there were REPEATED testings of God and rebellions against him. It culminated in the refusal of the Jews to enter the Promised Land and to fight the Canaanites, Hittites, Perizzites, Jebusites, Amorites, and all the others

They talked again of stoning Moses and of going back to Egypt where at least they had a secure life as slaves and plenty to eat

What a GREAT INSULT against God!!

God was enraged against the Jews at that time and talked of destroying them

Moses prayed for Israel and God relented... BUT he also said:

Numbers 14:21-23 Nevertheless, as surely as I live and as surely as the glory of the LORD fills the whole earth, ²² not one of the men who saw my glory and the miraculous signs I performed in Egypt and in the desert but who disobeyed me and tested me ten times-- ²³ not one of them will ever see the land I promised on oath to their forefathers. No one who has treated me with contempt will ever see it.

Did you hear that... TEN TIMES they disobeyed and tested God!!

6. David's point: Let's learn from history

Psalm 95:7-11 Today, if you hear his voice, ⁸ do not harden your hearts as you did at Meribah, as you did that day at Massah in the desert, ⁹ where your fathers tested and tried me, though they had seen what I did. ¹⁰ For forty years I was angry with that generation; I said, "They are a people whose hearts go astray, and they have not known my ways." ¹¹ So I declared on oath in my anger, "They shall never enter my rest."

For forty years, God was angry with that generation and refused to let any of them enter the Promised Land, but their children did

God's assessment of them was potent:

Psalm 95:10 For forty years I was angry with that generation; I said, "They are a people whose hearts go astray, and they have not known my ways."

God studied their hearts and knew that they did not know His ways... they did not understand how powerful He is or how much love He has toward them; they also had wandering idolatrous hearts, going constantly after the gods of the pagans

God's final declaration on that generation was the death penalty:

Psalm 95:11 So I declared on oath in my anger, "They shall never enter my rest."

"On oath" = a most solemn decree from the Judge of all the earth... because of their rebellion and unbelief, God would not permit them to enter the Promised Land

King David, looking back on this sad history was exhorting the people of his generation to learn from the bad example of their ancestors

The lesson was clear:

Today, if you hear God's voice, do not harden your hearts!!!

7. The Author to the Hebrews point: Let's learn from history

C. “So”: (or “Wherefore” in KJV, or “Therefore” in ESV and NASB)

Hebrews 3:1-6 LEADS TO Hebrews 3:7-11 on one theme... Jesus is greater than Moses

1. Jesus’ Mission is Greater Than Moses’ Mission
 - a. Hebrews 3:1-6 Jesus is openly compared with Moses
 - b. The Author to the Hebrews concludes very plainly that Jesus is GREATER THAN MOSES... Moses was merely a servant in God’s house, but Jesus is a Son OVER God’s house; Jesus is thus worthy of GREATER HONOR than Moses
 - c. Like Moses, however, Jesus is leading the people of God on a mission from bondage to freedom, from slavery to inheritance
 - d. But Jesus’ Exodus is infinitely greater than Moses’ Exodus
 - e. The slavery in sin is far more devastating... the task masters far more vicious, escape far less possible
 - f. The Promised Rest is infinitely greater, for Heaven is eternal and life in the Promised Land in Palestine could only last for a handful of years
2. Therefore Failure Today is Greater Than Failure Then
 - a. The Jews then were cursed by God to wander in the desert til they all died out and their children entered the Promised Land in their place
 - b. BUT

D. The Key Moment of the Daily Christian Life

1. Common reason for failure: unbelief leading to fear leading to disobedience
2. The same issues faced the Jews in David’s time when he wrote Psalm 95: unbelief leading to fear leading to disobedience
3. The same issues faced the Jewish Christians in the First Century when Hebrews was written: unbelief leading to fear leading to disobedience
4. Those same issues face us today as well
5. The key moment of the daily Christian life:

So, as the Holy Spirit says, “Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts...”

II. How the Holy Spirit Speaks

A. Who Is “The Holy Spirit”?

1. The Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the Trinity
2. He is God, equally to the Father and the Son
3. He first appears in the Scripture in Genesis 1:2
4. He is exactly the sa

B. How the Spirit Speaks: Through the Scripture

1. The Author Ascribes Psalm 95:7-11 to the Holy Spirit
2. The Author’s Key Idea: Scripture is God Speaking to Us
3. The Human authorship is minimized... the encounter with God through the text is maximized

C. “He Has Spoken Through the Prophets”

1. The Holy Spirit came on the Prophets in the Old Testament era and put the words of God in the mouth of the prophet

King David: **2 Samuel 23:2** *"The Spirit of the LORD spoke through me; his word was on my tongue.*

2. Frequently the expression was used, “The word of the Lord came to...”
3. The larger picture emerges that the Prophets spoke by the power of the Holy Spirit

1 Peter 1:10-11 *Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, ¹¹ trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.*

2 Peter 1:20-21 *Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. ²¹ For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.*

4. Jesus promised the Holy Spirit would come to the apostles and help them finish the Bible

John 16:13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

D. Does the Spirit Speak Apart from Scripture?

1. The Holy Spirit CAN and DOES speak directly to our hearts apart from Scripture

Romans 8:16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

2. The Holy Spirit can guide us and lead us in daily life

John 10:27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

3. The Holy Spirit can give us insights and prompt us to action

Acts 16:6-7 Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia. ⁷ When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to.

4. BUT this direct speaking of the Holy Spirit is LESS CLEAR than the speaking the Holy Spirit does in Scripture
 - a. The inner promptings of the Spirit are not perceived by all people but only by the person to whom it is given
 - b. The Scripture can be read clearly by all and is accepted by all as the Word of God
5. Some people, especially in the charismatic circles, put a tremendous amount of stock in the Holy Spirit's direct communication to their souls
 - a. They speak of the "Gift of Discernment" or the "Word of Knowledge" and feel they have the ability to know things in the spiritual realms
 - b. Others believe the gift of prophecy is still going on, and they can say "Thus says the Lord" with the same authority as any Biblical Prophet
6. Scripture tells us to TEST the spirits... the private impressions we get that may or may not be from the Holy Spirit

1 John 4:1 Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

1 Thessalonians 5:19-22 Do not put out the Spirit's fire; ²⁰ do not treat prophecies with contempt. ²¹ Test everything. Hold on to the good. ²² Avoid every kind of evil.

How do we TEST the spirits? Those “private impressions” Christians get that the Lord is leading them to do something? BY THE SCRIPTURE:

Westminster Confession of Faith:

The supreme judge by which all controversies of religion are to be determined, and all decrees of councils, opinions of ancient writers, doctrines of men, and PRIVATE SPIRITS, are to be examined, and in whose sentence we are to rest, can be no other but the Holy Spirit speaking in the Scripture

Notice: the “Holy Spirit speaking by Scripture”!! We are not pitting the living Spirit against the dead letter, but we are saying the Spirit DOES speak privately, but He speaks more CLEARLY PUBLICLY in the Scriptures

“So, as the Holy Spirit SAYS, ‘Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts...’”

E. Does the Spirit Speak Contrary to Scripture?

1. NEVER!!! Never, never, never!!
2. So, if that private impression you have of the Spirit’s voice is telling you to do something Scripture forbids, you can be sure that it is NOT the Holy Spirit telling you that

F. Application Point:

1. Every time you open the Bible, pause and ask the Lord to speak to you through its words
2. Primarily seek to hear God in Scripture
3. Stand under His word and listen to Him speaking to you directly

Psalm 119:18 Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.

1 Samuel 3:9 Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.

III. When the Holy Spirit Speaks

A. Note the Present Tense: “So, as the Holy Spirit SAYS...”

1. The Author to the Hebrews could have written,

“So, as the Holy Spirit SAID...”

Or again...

“So, as KING DAVID said...”

2. Psalm 95 written approximately 1000 years before the letter to Hebrews was written
3. At the time that David wrote the Psalm, the Holy Spirit was IN HIM, guiding his thoughts, guarding him from error
4. David was writing to an immediate situation, an immediate audience, the Jews living in his day, 1000 B.C.
5. BUT the Holy Spirit inspired David to write words that would be applicable to EVERY GENERATION of believer, in EVERY NATION and in EVERY CULTURE and EVERY LANGUAGE
6. This is the miracle of inspiration: the original Psalm was perfect down to the letter, and the Spirit then can use those words in every generation
7. So... the Holy Spirit is speaking always through the text of Scripture

B. Two Key Doctrines Relating the Spirit to the Scripture

1. Inspiration: the Spirit originally came on the prophet and put God's words in his mouth and then in his pen... the original writing was directly controlled by the Holy Spirit, guarding it from error
2. Illumination: the Spirit opens the eyes and hearts of His people to hear the word of God in the Scripture... making it come alive and be clear

C. Today... Now...the Spirit IS SPEAKING to His Church

1. Every reading of the Scripture should be an immediate encounter with the living God
2. As if you were standing with the Jews and Moses on Mount Sinai and hearing the voice of God from the cloud that settled on the top of that mountain
3. As if you were standing with Jesus and the Apostles on the Mount of Transfiguration and hearing the voice of God speaking from the glory cloud that surrounded them

Matthew 17:5 While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"

4. The Scripture is NOT A DEAD LETTER... but for us a living encounter with the living God by the power of the Holy Spirit
5. Hebrews 3-4: an extended meditation on Psalm 95, applying its lessons to the first century persecuted Jewish church of Christ... after that extended

meditation on various aspects of Psalm 95, the Author just stops and marvels at the power of the word of God

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

LIVING... ACTIVE... PENETRATING... DIVIDING... JUDGING...

The word of God is a powerful change agent in the human heart

6. The key concept here: If you want to hear the Spirit speak to your heart,
READ THE SCRIPTURES!!!
7. The mark of a truly saved heart: recognizing the voice of God behind the voice of men in the Scriptures:

1 Thessalonians 2:13 And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe.

So... when does the Holy Spirit speak? Today, whenever you read the Scriptures!!

IV. Today, If You Hear His Voice

A. The Theology of "Today"

1. The author zeroes in on one word, "Today"... and will meditate on it extensively
2. Look at some key verses:

Hebrews 3:12-13 See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. ¹³ But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

Hebrews 3:15 As has just been said: "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion."

Hebrews 4:7 Therefore God again set a certain day, calling it Today, when a long time later he spoke through David, as was said before: "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts."

3. What is this thing called "Today" that God appointed? What is the best way to understand the author's focus on the idea of "Today"?

B. Seven Days of Creation

1. Lots of debate over creation... whether it took billions of years or less
2. If evolution is true, then the universe MUST have taken billions of years, because otherwise there wouldn't be time for evolution
3. But if you take a simple biblical approach, God made the heavens and the earth directly, and He did it in seven days
4. The Genesis account focuses on the rhythm of the days again and again

Genesis 1:5 God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning-- the first day.

Genesis 1:8 And there was evening, and there was morning-- the second day.

5. This set up a rhythm for human life... sunrise, sunset... a new day... yesterday, today, tomorrow
6. The word "days" referred to our life time on earth...

Psalms 90:9-10 All our days pass away under your wrath; we finish our years with a moan. ¹⁰ The length of our days is seventy years-- or eighty, if we have the strength; yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away.

C. Your Life is a Tapestry of Today's

1. Your whole life is a vast and beautiful tapestry or a magnificent Persian rug, made up of individual threads of various colors...

In 1987, while in Islamabad, Pakistan, I became interested in the history and art of Persian rugs

The best of these exquisite rugs were woven by hand out of silk threads in the city of Isfahan, Persia (modern Iran).

In around the year 1600, one rug in particular was crafted in Isfahan during the reign of the Safavid Shah Abbas I. It was 7'7" long by 5'7" wide and it used fourteen different shades of colored silk threads (in contrast to the usual eight to ten shade typical of oriental rugs). The vivid colors of sapphire blue, scarlet, and green radiate throughout the magnificent rug

Adding to the tonal effect is the formal composition of the rug. The overall motif is achieved through a system of scrolling floral vinery and arabesques, each with its own personality and destination. The central walnut medallion and triple border frame the energy that exudes from the lively field.

The rug is made up of an astonishingly high density of silk threads, each knotted by hand by the skillful artist

On June 3, 2008, this amazing Persian carpet was auctioned off at Christie's of New York for the world record price of \$4.45 million!

Now I can't imagine spending four and a half million dollars on a Persian rug! But apparently this rare rug was worth just that to its new owner, an anonymous resident of Long Island.

2. Your whole life is a tightly woven tapestry or Persian rug of various colored threads... each one hand knotted by Almighty God on his loom... and each thread is called "Today"
3. Today is Sunday... and your life is made up of days just like this one
4. As the tapestry of your life is woven, it is made up of TODAY... and TODAY... and TODAY

D. Today is All You Will Ever Have

1. You had yesterday in your hand... in yesterday, you made choices, achieved certain deeds, spoke certain words, ate certain foods, viewed certain scenes with your eyes... you had yesterday right in the palm of your hand...
2. BUT when you had "yesterday" it was called "Today!" Now yesterday is as gone as two days ago, last week, and last year... they are all gone into the record book of God, and you'll meet them all again on Judgment Day
3. Tomorrow has not come yet... in fact it may never come;

James 4:13-16 Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." ¹⁴ Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. ¹⁵ Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." ¹⁶ As it is, you boast and brag. All such boasting is evil.

4. Tomorrow is in the mind of God alone... that doesn't mean you can't plan for tomorrow today... actually, you should

Proverbs 6:6-8 Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! ⁷ It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, ⁸ yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest.

5. Simply put, you can not obey God yesterday, though you can learn from yesterday; and you can't obey God tomorrow, though you can prepare for tomorrow
6. If TODAY you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts

V. Do Not Harden Your Hearts

A. The Command is a Warning: Do Not Harden Your Hearts

1. The hardened heart means an unresponsive heart... unyielded
2. The prophets in Israel spoke over and over of the Jews being a “stiffnecked people”... the idea is the same—unresponsive to God, disobedient

B. To Harden Your Heart is to Resist God’s Leadership

1. The Holy Spirit prompts you through Scripture, He is speaking to you, leading you
 - a. It could be in the area of evangelism or missions... the Scripture lays out Christ’s desires for us to seek and save the lost; the Spirit prompts you to reach out to a neighbor or a co-worker
 - b. You are at a key moment: “Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your heart”... Go... be bold... reach out with the gospel
 - c. Or it could be in the area of stewardship; you are reading a passage on money, and the Scripture speaks of how greed is covetousness; the Spirit speaks to your heart to be faithful and give more money to the work of the Lord
 - d. You are again at a key moment: “Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your heart”... Commit your checkbook and your bank account to the Lord and give
 - e. Or it could be in the area of personal holiness; you read in the Scripture “Be holy, because I am holy”; you feel through the Spirit that Almighty God is speaking directly to you about some area of sin or worldliness in your life—perhaps it is in the movies you watch or the websites you are visiting; God demands perfect holiness from you
 - f. You are again at a key moment: “Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your heart”... Commit your life to the Lord and put the sin to death; stop watching those movies or visiting those websites; confess your sin to the Lord and be faithful to be holy

C. We Harden Our Own Hearts by Sin

Hebrews 3:12-13 See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. ¹³ But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

A decision to turn away from God TODAY puts a hardness in your heart

The more you refuse to listen to the Spirit as He speaks to you today, the harder your heart will become

VI. The Destination of a Hardened Heart

Hebrews 3:11 So I declared on oath in my anger, 'They shall never enter my rest.'"

A. The Disobedient Heart Does Not Know God or His Ways

Hebrews 3:10 'Their hearts are always going astray, and they have not known my ways.'

1. The Jews did not know God... they did not understand His power, His awesome wonder-working power
2. They talked about the Anakites and their cities with walls up to the sky
3. They could never have imagined that God would make the walls of Jericho simply tumble down to the ground in one instant... no wall ever made can hold God out
4. Though that had never happened in history, yet they should have reasoned "The God who made the water of the Red Sea stand like a wall on our left and right, and then made the same wall of water crash down on the Egyptian army... that God can do ANYTHING HE LIKES to a city wall
5. Those Jews did not know God or His ways

B. The Disobedient Heart is Always Going Astray

1. These people were constantly going astray away from God
2. Lusting after the gods of the nations
3. Yearning after the lusts of the eyes and of the flesh
4. So also we struggle with a wandering heart

C. The Destination: The Anger of God Resulting in a Fearful Decree

Hebrews 3:11 So I declared on oath in my anger, 'They shall never enter my rest.'"

1. The Jews of that time were forbidden by God to enter the Promised Land... they all died in the desert
2. But Jesus is greater than Moses and greater than Joshua

3. The end of a heart that does not know God and that constantly wanders away through unbelief and rebellion is the ANGER OF GOD and an OATH saying “You will NEVER enter my rest”
4. The final decree will be spoken:

Matthew 25:41 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

VII. Application

A. Come to Christ:

1. Today, if you hear Him call on you, repent, believe and be saved
2. Today is the day of salvation...

B. Today, If You Hear His Voice... Do Not Harden Your Hearts

1. Learn to hear the Holy Spirit speak to you through Scripture
2. Be faithful to READ THE BIBLE DAILY... but as you read, listen point by point as the Lord is speaking to you through Genesis, or Job, or a Psalm, or a passage in Acts, or a verse in Romans
3. Pray over the verse... ask the Lord to open your eyes to see its truth
4. Then, ask the Lord to give you a responsive heart... to DO WHAT HE HAS TOLD YOU TO DO
5. Put the Spirit speaking to you in Scripture above any private promptings you may have in your heart

C. Live an Obedient and Bold Life Based on Scripture