

The Dudes at the Dunes - Men's Retreat 2023
Saturday Morning - Rhythm 2 - Read - "Rhythm The Book"

Psalm 1:1-6, "1. Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, or stand in the way of sinners, or sit in the seat of mockers; 2. But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. 3. He is like a tree planted by streams of water which yields its fruit in season, and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does, prospers. 4. Not so the wicked! They are like chaff that the wind blows away. 5. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous; 6. For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish."
New International Version, 1986.

1. Review.

2012 forced me to start **Daily Audio Bible** and **The Brotherhood of The Book**.
2015 - Read - *Rhythm the Book*. 2016 - Pray - *Talk to Papa*. 2017 - Grow - *Engage the Nudge*. 2018 - Bless - *Be the Blessing*. 2019 - Protect - *Guard Your Heart*. 2020 - COVID. 2021 - Finish - *Stick the Landing*. 2022 - Pursue - *Follow the Star*. 2023 - Read - 1 Peter www.the-brotherhood-of-the-book.org



Rhythm 1 - Pursue - "Follow the Star". Pursue means to "seek". "Walk" vs. "Race". How often should I "seek"? Goal is to "win" the race. Tourist vs. Pilgrim. Memories vs. "holy & sacred". Wise Men. Look up to move forward. Direction not destination. Ask questions until found. **One question?** "Where is he who is born King of the Jews?"

2. Rhythm 2 - Read - “*Rhythm the Book*”

v. 2. “But his **Delight** is in the Law of the Lord . . .”

What does “**Delight**” mean?

Merriam Webster - “To bend toward, be drawn in, to find joy”.

Do I “**find joy**” in the Law of God?

Psalm 19:9b-10, “The decrees of the Lord are firm, and all of them are righteous. They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold, they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb.”

Matthew 13:44-45, “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like **treasure** hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one **pearl of great price**, went and sold all that he had and bought it.”

Psalm 119:97, “Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day.”

“**Delight**” is assumed to be constant; never ending; all the time.
It’s the difference between a “**workout**” and a “**rhythm.**”

Proverbs 30:18-19, “Three things are too wonderful for me; four I do not understand: the way of an eagle in the sky, the way of a serpent on a rock, the way of a ship on the high seas, and the way of a man with a virgin.” **When did you fall in love?**

Leann and I have written hundreds of love letters. Do I love just the letters or do I love the letters because of the woman who wrote the letters to me?

1 John 4:19, “ We love (Him) because he first loved us.”

We love the Law of God not just for the truth of the words themselves, but for the love those words communicates to us from the very heart of the God who created us and loved us first.

Deuteronomy 32:46-47, “he said to them, “Take to heart all the words I have solemnly declared to you this day, so that you may command your children to obey carefully all the words of this law. They are not just idle words for you—**they are your life.** By them you will live long in the land you are crossing the Jordan to possess.”

What is the one question Wise Men Ask?
Is the “Word of God” your very life?”

What does “Workout” vs. “Rhythm” look like?

Luke 2:41-51, “**41** Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. **42** And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. **43** And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, **44** but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, **45** and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. **46 After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.** **47** And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. **48** And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress.” **49** And he said to them, “**Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?**” **50** And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. **51** And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. **52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.**

Question. Can you picture yourself lost in time and space for three days listening to God's Word and asking questions? Is Jesus acting like a **Tourist** or a **Pilgrim**? There are no shortcuts. What things will have to **come out** for God' Word to **get in**? What kept Jesus there for three days without a thought of anything else? “**Delight!**”

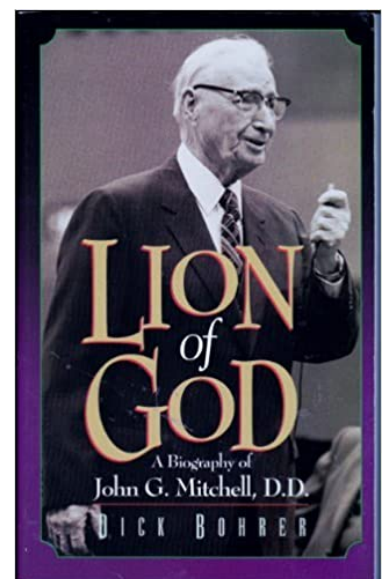
The Temptation of Jesus.

Two chapter later, **Luke 4:1-13**, we find Jesus being tempted by Satan for forty days. We only hear of the last three temptations. And what does Jesus do in response to each of the three temptations? He quotes scripture back at the Devil. Deuteronomy 8:3, 6:16, 6:13. No sermons, no devotionals, no explanations of any kind. **Just scripture. Could you do that?**

LION OF GOD , A Biography of John G. Mitchell, DD

John G. Mitchell, DD founded Central Bible Church in **1942**. It became the largest church west of the Mississippi until he retired in 1967. He founded Central Bible Church and Multnomah School of The Bible and radio preaching. He was best known for his knowledge of the scripture. He could quote scripture for hours without looking. **His secret?** For the entirety of his ministry, before he preached on a passage of scripture, he would read the book from which it was taken, in its entirety, fifty times. Fifty times! He is quoted as saying, “I never set out to memorize the Bible, I just read it so much that I knew it by heart.”

<http://www.dickbohrerbooks.com/Biography/LionofGod.pdf>



When you read the Scripture as a “Pilgrim”, look for . . .

God’s Precepts - “Ten Commandments”. 2,500 Do’s and Don’ts.

Psalm 119:9-11, “How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word. With my whole heart I **seek** you; let me not wander from your commandments! I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.” **2 Timothy 3:16-17**, “All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, **that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.**”

Pastor Ron Mehl, “Sin will always take you farther than you want to go, keep you longer than you want to stay and cost you more than you want to pay.” **Leviticus** demonstrates that removing sin is brutal, bloody and expensive, as was the Cross. **1 John 1:9**, “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” **1 Precept & 4 Promises.**

God’s Promises - God’s provision / protection. 7,500 Promises.

2 Peter 1:3-4, “His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, by which he has granted to us his **precious** and very **great promises**, so that through them **you may become partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.”

In scripture, for every precept of God, you’ll find three promises of God.

The Greatest “**Precept & Promise**” ever offered.

John 14:1-3, “Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.” 2 Precepts; 6 Promises.

Great Cloud of Witnesses

Hebrews 12:1-3, “Therefore we also, since we are **surrounded** by so **great a cloud of witnesses**, let us lay aside **every weight**, and the **sin** which so easily ensnares us, and **let us run** with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. For **consider Him** who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become **weary** and **discouraged** in your souls.”

John G. Mitchell, D.D. “Don’t you just love the Savior?”
Psalm 1:2, “But his delight is in the Law of the Lord . . .”