



# How to Access Principles, Promises and Prophecy

Dr. Antwan Butler, Lead Pastor

# OBJECTIVES

Objectives:

1. To learn how to engage the weapons of warfare to create a prosperous, glorifying and healthy spiritual life.

# Spiritual Arsenal

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1. The Word of God (*logos and rhema*)
  2. Prayer
  3. Studying
  4. Fasting
  5. Meditation
  6. Fellowship of the saints
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# The Word of God

- Logos – the written word of God
- Rhema – the spoken word of God
- *2 Timothy 3:15-17 - And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. [16] All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: [17] That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*

## The Word of God

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1. **Prophecy** – God's stated intent in the life of the believer
2. **Promises** – the boundary of God's commitment to the believer as far as our work on earth is concerned.
3. **Principles** – how the kingdom of God operates



# Perspectives of Scripture

1. Historical
  2. Life Application
  3. Prophetic
  4. Revelation
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# How to Engage the Word of God

1. Find the scripture(s) that relate to my situation or circumstance
2. Release my faith in the:
  1. Father's *ability*,
  2. Jesus' *authorization*
  3. and the Holy Spirit's *administration*

## **And continue to:**

1. Believe and not doubt
2. Continue to confess and believe against my senses
3. Align my confession with the word of God
4. Pray for grace to endure until change comes

# Types of Prayer

(Eph. 6:18, 1 Tim. 2:1)

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**Supplication** – seeking, asking or making a petition before the Lord

**Praying in the spirit** (Unknown tongue)

**Warfare** – prayer that takes a bold stand praying specifically and confidently through God's power and Spirit

**Intercession** – to hold an interview or a conference

**Thanksgiving** – grateful language which emanates from a spirit of gratitude



A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a row of five light-colored wooden blocks. Each block has a black letter on it, spelling out the word 'PRAYE'. The hand is positioned below the blocks, with fingers gently supporting them. The background is dark and out of focus.

PRAYE

## 5 Major Assignments of Prayer

1. Fellowship with God (Koinonia)
2. A tool for transforming our lives
3. A Platform for Making Requests and Obtaining Promises
4. A Platform for Spiritual Legislation
5. Warfare and Intercession



# Prayer Acronyms

Dr. Antwan R. Butler



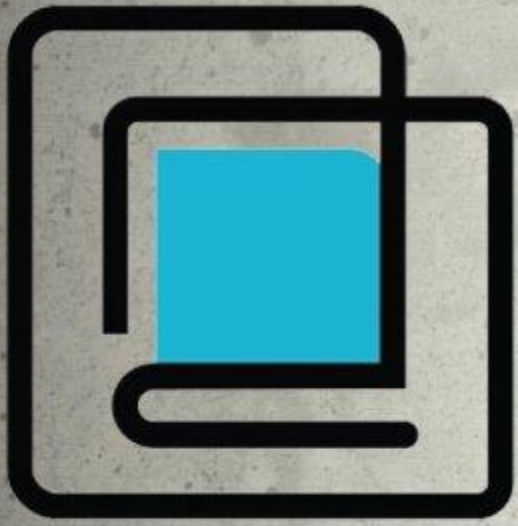
## A.C.T.S.

**A. doration** - *“show deep love and respect to God with words”*

**C. onfession** – *“admitting my sins and the need for God’s forgiveness”*

**T. hanksgiving** – *“expression of gratitude for what He has done”*

**S. upplication** – *“asking God for the supply of my needs”*



# E X P L O R I N G G O D ' S W O R D

*And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house.  
Acts 16:32*

*They received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily.  
Acts 17:11*

How to Study the Word of God

Jesus



**EVERYTHING  
POINTS TO  
JESUS CHRIST**

Integrated Design

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The *New Testament* is in the

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*Old Testament* **concealed:**

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The *Old Testament* is in the

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*New Testament* **revealed**

# Inerrancy and Infallibility

**Inerrancy:** that the Bible contains neither errors of fact (*material errors*) nor internal contradictions (*formal errors*).

**Infallibility:** because it is divinely inspired, it is reliable and trustworthy to all who turn to it and search for God's truth.

A stack of several open books with yellowed pages, set against a dark teal background. The books are arranged in a way that shows their spines and pages, with some pages slightly curled. The text "Books of the Bible broken down" is overlaid in white, sans-serif font across the middle of the image.

# Books of the Bible broken down

# Bible Book Classifications

## Old Testament

Genesis	Job	Isaiah
Exodus	Psalms	Jeremiah
Leviticus	Proverbs	Lamentations
Numbers	Ecclesiastes	Ezekiel
Deuteronomy	Song of Solomon	Daniel
Joshua	<b>History</b> <b>Poetry</b> <b>Prophecy</b> <b>Gospels</b> <b>Epistles</b>	Hosea
Judges		Joel
Ruth		Amos
I Samuel		Obadiah
II Samuel		Jonah
I Kings		Micah
II Kings		Nahum
I Chronicles		Habakkuk
II Chronicles		Zephaniah
Ezra		Haggai
Nehemiah		Zechariah
Esther		Malachi

## New Testament

Matthew	I Thessalonians
Mark	II Thessalonians
Luke	I Timothy
John	II Timothy
	Titus
Acts	Philemon
Romans	Hebrews
I Corinthians	James
II Corinthians	I Peter
Galatians	II Peter
Ephesians	I John
Philippians	II John
Colossians	III John
	Jude
	Revelation

# 1. Grasp the text in their town (*Observation*)

a. Who is the author, audience, setting, type of literature (*law, narrative, poetry, apocalyptic*)

a. Figures of speech in their context (*sometimes these are only visible in their language*)

a. What is the time period?

a. Cultural context



2. Measure the length of the river to be crossed  
**(Analysis)**

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a. What are the differences between me and the audience (e.g. *Levitical law, ceremonial law which is fulfilled through the sacrifice of Christ*)

a. Historical context, redemptive context, covenantal context



### 3. Crossing the principalizing bridge (**Application**)

- a. What we are bringing over is timeless theological truths (*this will be the same that's true in both towns*)
- b. What doctrines are we addressing
- c. What do I know about these doctrines
- d. What key verses go with these doctrines (*What I infer from the scripture must not conflict with biblical doctrine*)

**D** EITY OF CHRIST

**O** RIGINAL SIN

**C** ANON OF SCRIPTURE

**T** RINITY

**R** ESURRECTION

**I** NCARNATION

**N** EW CREATION

**E** SCHATOLOGY (END TIMES)

2 TIMOTHY 2:2

# Christian Fundamentals

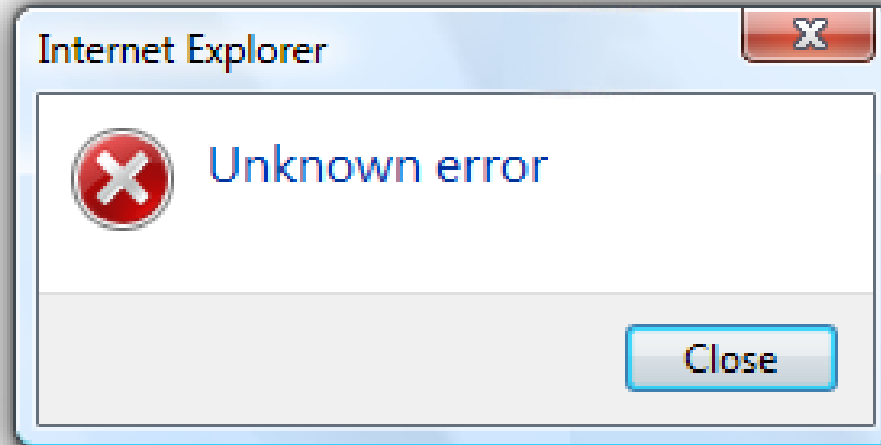
VISION  
VOCATION  
VERACITY

VICTORY

PROFEE

## 4. Consult the biblical map (*allowing the whole of scripture to interpret scripture*)

a. How does that theological principle fit with the rest of the Bible?



a. If I read and come up with something no one has ever come up with before.... I'm probably wrong!!

## 5. Grasp the text in our time

a. How should I live  
out this theological  
principle

b. This gets us to  
application (*what I'm  
applying is the timeless  
theological truths*)



How to Apply the 5 steps (*each one of these can be different highlighter colors. Develop your own system*)

## 1. Reading sentences

- a. Look for repeated words
- b. Look for contrasts and comparisons (*this is like that*)
- c. Look for lists (*the fruit of the spirit*)
- d. Look for cause and affect (*if we confess our sins...*)
- e. Look for figures of speech



**BIBLE**  
*Coding Guide*

ARABAHJOY.COM

**BLUE**  
Who God is, Names, Attributes

**GREEN**  
Growth, Commands, Laws, Obedience, Fruitfulness

**YELLOW**  
Eternity, Heaven, Angels, Hope

**ORANGE**  
Sin, Satan, Spiritual Warfare, Temptation, Demons, or Hell

**RED**  
Christ's atoning work, prophecy re: Christ, Christ seen in the Old Testament

**PINK**  
Relationships, How to treat others, Love

**PURPLE**  
Promises of God, Who I am in Christ

**BROWN**  
Names, Times, Places, Locations, Numbers

The image shows a 'Bible Coding Guide' chart. It is enclosed in a dashed border. At the top, it says 'BIBLE Coding Guide' and 'ARABAHJOY.COM'. Below this, there are eight color-coded categories, each with a colored brushstroke background for the color name and a list of associated biblical topics. The colors are Blue, Green, Yellow, Orange, Red, Pink, Purple, and Brown.

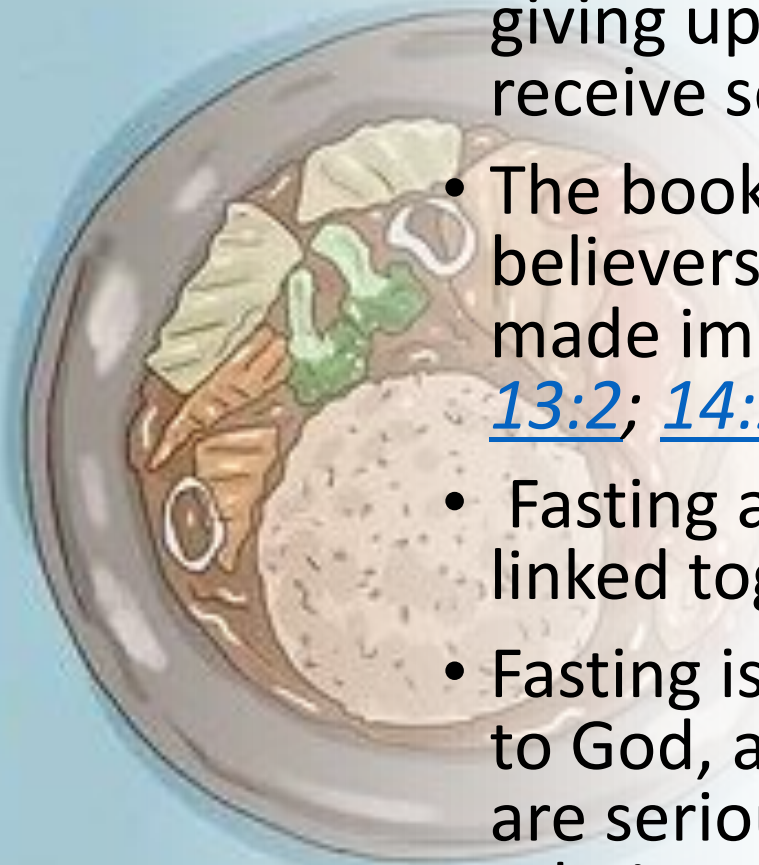


A  
Hunger  
for God

# FASTING

*Ezra 8:21 – “Then I proclaimed a fast there at the river of Ahava that we might afflict ourselves before our God to see of him a right way for us and for our little one and for all our substance.”*

# What Does the Bible Say?



- The Bible presents fasting as giving up something on earth to receive something from Heaven
- The book of Acts records believers fasting before they made important decisions ([Acts 13:2](#); [14:23](#)).
- Fasting and prayer are often linked together ([Luke 2:37](#); [5:33](#)).
- Fasting is a way to demonstrate to God, and to ourselves, that we are serious about our relationship with Him. Fasting helps us gain a new perspective and a renewed reliance upon God.

- Although fasting in Scripture is almost always a fasting from food, there are other ways to fast. Anything given up temporarily in order to focus all our attention on God can be considered a fast
- By taking our eyes off the things of this world, we can more successfully turn our attention to Christ.
- Fasting is not a way to get God to do what we want.
- Fasting changes us, not God.
- Fasting is not a way to appear more spiritual than others.
- Fasting is to be done in a spirit of humility and a joyful attitude. [Matthew 6:16-18](#) declares, *“When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show men they are fasting. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to men that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.”*

# What are the different types of fast?

**REGULAR FAST:** is done by abstaining from all food, both solid and liquid, except for water.

**PARTIAL FAST:** The prophet Daniel spent three weeks fasting from certain foods.

**ABSOLUTE/FULL FAST:** where no food or water is consumed. When Esther discovered the plan for all the Jews to be killed in Persia, she and her fellow Jews fasted from food and water for three days before she entered the king's courts to ask for his mercy ([Esther 4:16](#)).

# What are the different types of fast?

**SEXUAL FAST:** In [Exodus 19:15](#), the people of Israel were to prepare for their encounter with the Lord at Mt. Sinai, and part of their preparation was to abstain from sexual relations for three days.

- In [1 Corinthians 7:5](#) Paul says that a married couple can mutually agree to abstain from sex for a short period of time in order to devote themselves to prayer. But then they are to *“come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.”*

## 2 Conditions for fasting

1. My heart must be right – *Proverbs 23:26*

*“My son give me thine heart and let thine eyes observe my ways”*

2. Fasting must be coupled with word study and prayer.

A silhouette of a man in prayer against a sunset background. The man is shown from the side, with his hands clasped in front of him in a prayerful gesture. The background is a dramatic sunset with a bright sun low on the horizon, casting a golden glow across the sky and silhouetting the man and some trees in the distance. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

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# CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

What is Christian Meditation?

**Meditation** [\*daw-gaw]  
(to moan, growl, utter or  
mutter, to ponder,  
imagine, to speak)





## Meditation

### [Psalm 19:14](#)

*Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.*

### [Joshua 1:8](#)

*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.*



# Meditation

## Philippians 4:8

*Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.*

## Psalms 1:2

*But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.*

# What is Christian meditation?

Christian meditation is to be solely on the Word of God and what it reveals about Him and His works. David found this to be so, and he describes the man who is “blessed” as one whose “delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he *meditates* day and night”

We put this truth into practice, committing ourselves to the Scriptures as the rule for life and practice as we go about our daily activities. This causes spiritual growth and maturing in the things of God as we are taught by His Holy Spirit.

# What is Christian meditation?

When Joshua was told to meditate constantly on God's law, his meditation was to make him "*careful to do everything written in it*" ([Joshua 1:8](#)). Thinking on God's Word and His character is the focus of meditation, and its goal is obedience.

Meditating on what is good and right has the end goal of turning thoughts into action and putting them into practice ([Philippians 4:9](#)). Coming into contact with the Bible should promote change in a person's life ([James 1:22–25](#)), and biblical meditation will help ensure proper change.

What is Christian  
meditation?

Christians should follow the Bible's teaching on meditation and meditate on God and His Word, not on ourselves or the things of this world.

## (4) Practical Tips for Meditation

1. Carve out a specific time and place each day when you are least likely to be interrupted or distracted to get alone and meditate on God's Word.
2. Start with prayer and ask God to help you with your meditation. You can ask the Lord to draw you closer to Him, open your eyes to His truth, help you apply that truth in your life, and transform you as you meditate on God's Word.
3. Choose a small section of Scripture. Think about what the passage means. Study it in depth so that you can understand it in context. Take notes. Ask questions. Memorize the passage. Ask God what He wants to say to you through the text.
4. Consider how you can apply the passage to your life in practical ways, and ask God to help you follow through in obedience to what He shows you.




Fellowship of the Saints

# Hebrews 10:25

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“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some is but exhorting one another: and so much the more as ye see the day approaching.”



**Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.**

**Hebrews 10:25 (KJV)**

# Fellowship of the Saints

- Assembling ourselves together “*episunagoge*” - to bring or summon together into a group especially in a particular place for a particular purpose.
- It is symbolic of us being gathered together at his appearing (2 Thessalonians 2:1)



# Reasons we assemble

- **Unity** – Psalm 133 (*genuine love for the body, mutual honor, forbearance, faithful spirit*)
- Provokes the presence of Christ (*Matthew 18:20*)
- Teaching
- Fellowship
- Worship
- Eating meals
- Sharing in the Lord's Supper



# Reasons we assemble

- Praying together (*Acts 2:42*). “Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts” (*Acts 2:46*).
- Union is strength
- Exchange and foster love
- Give good opportunities to “*provoke to good works*” by exhorting one another (*Hebrews 3:13*)
- Hold each other accountable (*Galatians 6:1*)
- Receive instructions from the shepherds who watch over us (*Hebrews 13:17*)

# The Day of the Lord is approaching

- Christ coming “the day” has always been practically near but believers have been called on to always be watching for it
- Keep the church out of apostasy