

4. John Mark Comer offers a method and template for building a “talk back” journal. We will use it below, but we will start with where he ends. His approach is to answer the second question below first (describe the sinful thought), then the third question, then to search for Scripture that answers the first question. Try his approach with an area of struggle you have if you have time.

What is the truth?

Matthew 6: 25 “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? 27 Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life[e]?”

28 “And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. 29 Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. 30 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? 31 So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ 32 For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. 33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

What’s a thought, feeling, and/or sensation [you experience that runs counter to the truth in this passage]?

What’s the lie beneath the thought, feeling, and/or sensation that reveals your attachment to something other than God?

Where is God leading you with your BLESS list this week?



SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

The Fight

“How to Wield Scripture in the Fight”

Matthew 4:1-11

How to Wield Scripture in the Fight

Wielding Scripture is more than _____ it; it’s not a magical incantation.

1. _____ Scripture.

You can’t wield what you haven’t _____.

Sometimes our time in the Bible can actually keep the Bible _____ of us.

“Microdosing of Scripture without a grasp of the whole can easily distort our interpretations. Time-tested traditions of long-form Scripture engagement expose us to and familiarize us with the contents of Scripture.” (Dru Johnson)

“While personal character formation [through personal Scriptural engagement] is essential, in isolation it aligns better with modernist tendencies than with the biblical focus on character formation through habits, rituals, and guidance from the community. This inward focus can also cast the formation of justice in communities and systems—a primary concern of the biblical authors—as adhering to individualistic ethical principles.” (Dru Johnson)

How is it that our time in the Bible can actually keep the Bible out of us?

- We fail to study it, so we don’t actually know it and _____ it.
- We individualize it, so we fail to apply it beyond our _____ concerns and issues.

2. _____ Scripture.

“The key not just to think about Scripture, but to think Scripture.” (John Mark Comer in Live No Lies: Recognize and Resist the Three Enemies That Sabotage Your Peace)

As you learn Scripture you begin to _____ Scripturally. (Romans 12:2)

