

**BOTTOM LINE WITH GOD'S WORD  
FOR MEN #68**

**Theme: "Be a Scribe for the Lord"**

**Scripture: Jeremiah 30:2 (ESV)**

*Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: "Writing in a book all the words that I have spoken to you."*

**A Thought:**

I'm a note taker. I have always been a copious note scribbler e.g. work, assorted reading materials, household chores and such. Although there are times when I never looked at the notes and they just piled up on my desk or bulging out of my pockets screaming to be read. An organized mess to be dealt with - pronto! Even during my first couple of years as a new believer I was a prolific note taker. Man...I was writing everything that was being said or read! I have so many note pads from the Dollar Store that I can start my own note pad business. Scriptures, commentary notes, prayer requests, bible study assignments all ready to receive my attention. When I did focus and read the material I plastered the pages with a rainbow of pen ink colors and of course the proverbial neon highlighters. I was a committed Christian note taker! Sadly in my note taking madness I did not inculcate the teachings of the ancient Christian fathers as stated in Romans 15:4...."*For everything that is written from ancient times is written for our teaching, that by patience and by comfort of the Scriptures we should have hope*" (*Aramaic Bible In Plain English*). **It wasn't until years later....yes, years later I learned that taking "study" notes were more than scriptural quotations or facts to be used for the next debate. Those precious messages are bestowed upon us by our heavenly Father to transform our lives. As stated in Romans 15:4 (NIV) "For everything that is written from ancient times is written for our teaching....and that we should have hope."**

**Now....what are your thoughts? Write them down.**

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**Talk to yourself:**

- **Do you nod your head or take notes to a sermon?**
- **Why do you write Bible study notes?**
- **What catches your eye or heart?**
- **Do you pray or meditate over the verses and or notes you have written?**
- **As stated in the quote below - do you linger over your written verses?**

**Scriptures to read:**

- **Psalm 119:12, 18, 27, 38, 59, 60; Proverbs 2:4, 3:5; John 7:17;**
- **Luke 8:15, 11:28, 24: 25-27; John 7:17; Romans 10:17; Acts 17:11;**
- **1 Timothy 4:6-13; 2Timothy 2:8-15; Hebrews 4:12-13; 1 John 5:11. 12;**

**Quote: Christy Tennant, Contributor to Bible Magazine**

*“Journaling forces me to linger over a verse longer than I normally would. During my devotions, if a particular verse or phrase catches my eye, I write it down and begin meditating on it.”*

***Bottom Line:***

**The Lord isn't going to ask me “Ok, Spiritual Dabbler - how many notes to do you have to show me?” In His infinite Holy wisdom the Lord will probably throw a curve at me and ask the following ”Son...once you wrote this or that scripture down did you pray and meditate before or after the read?” And a followup exhortation would follow...”Son, did you apply the spiritual things you learned?” Listen to what Jesus says in one of the oft-quoted scriptures of all time...Luke 8:15 (NIV) *“But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.”* The Lord wants you to grasp the Bible with eagerness so that our transformed lives will reach out to countless others with the word of truth...2 Timothy 2:15 (NIV) *“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.”***

**NOW.....THAT'S THE BOTTOM LINE.**

**Spiritual Dabbler,**

**Your bro, Ray**

