

## Bucket Talk – “BP”

### Bible Verses

**Luke 8:19-21** Now Jesus' mother and brothers came to see him, but they were not able to get near him because of the crowd. Someone told him, "Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to see you." He replied, "My mother and brothers are those who hear God's word and put it into practice."

### Batting Practice and another kind of “BP”



One of the coolest things about going to a Major League game is getting there early enough to watch batting practice or “BP”. It is poetry in motion. There are infielders taking ground balls, outfielders catching flies and hitters taking their turn in the batting cage by groups. It is constant motion...all of these things going on at the same time. Batting Practice is just that...it's practice. You see the players working on every aspect of the game, fielding, throwing, running, and hitting. This pregame practice helps prepare them each day for the game that is to be played. It is not enough to know how to hit. One has to practice how to hit to become better. The best Major League players are the ones who work the hardest. They prepare to play the game with all their hard work during the practice time called “BP”.

In the Scripture above, Jesus is once again teaching. By this time in His ministry, Jesus has started drawing very large crowds. Not only is His teaching wonderful, but people have seen and heard about His healing ministry as well. They are aware of the miracles that He has been performing. Jesus is told that His mother and brothers are outside and they want to see Him. Then Jesus says something then that may seem a little strange to us. He says, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear God's word and put it into practice."

What He is saying to us is that His family is the family of God. And the family of God is made up of all the people who believe in Him. But He is also telling us to not just read and know what the Bible says, He tells us that we are to put into practice what he is teaching us.

What would happen if a Major League player never practiced hitting? He might know everything there is to know about hitting, but that's not enough is it? Without practice in baseball, players cannot master the skills to become a great player.

So, how do we get better in other areas of our life? I think just like in the game of baseball, the answer again is practice. God has given us our practice planner. It is His word...The Bible. I have a favorite “acronym” for the word “Bible”...**Basic Information Before Leaving Earth**. It is “Gods game plan” for our lives. Our “practice planner”.



I bet you can remember when your last batting practice was, right? How about that other kind of “BP”....Bible practice? God wants to give each of us a more abundant life. We can achieve this by reading “Gods game plan” for our life and putting into practice His kingdom principles. People who are a part of the same family share a common culture and practice. We will feel a part of Gods family as we put into practice what is common in His Kingdom.