

Lesson 2 – How to Know the Bible

Key Verse: 2 Timothy 2:15

“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.”

Why Know God’s Word

Five reasons why knowing God’s Word is important:

1. 2 Timothy 2:15: _____
2. 1 Peter 2:2: _____
3. Psalm 119:11: _____
4. Psalm 119:38: _____
5. Psalm 119:105: _____

How to know God’s Word

1. **Hear it!** “So faith comes from hearing, and hearing the word of Christ.” (Romans 10:17)
2. **Read it!** “Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near.” (Revelation 1:3)
3. **Study it!** “[They] were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so.” (Acts 17:11)
4. **Memorize it!** “Your word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against You.” (Psalm 119:11)
5. **Meditate on it!** “But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night.” (Psalm 1:2)
6. **Obey it!** “But prove yourselves to be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.” (James 1:22)

The Bible Study Process

1. Preparation

- a. 1 Peter 2:1-2. What should we do before we approach the Scriptures? _____

- b. Colossians 1:9-10. What should we pray for as we prepare to study God's Word? _____

2. Observation

- a. Asks the question, "What do I see?"
 - i. Look for:
 - 1. Key words
 - 2. Key subjects
 - 3. Commands
 - 4. Warnings
 - 5. Repeated words or phrases
 - 6. Questions, answers given
 - 7. Anything unusual or unexpected
- b. What is the key subject of Colossians 1:15-20? _____

3. Interpretation

- a. Asks the question, "What does it mean?"
- b. We need to remember to keep the Scripture in its context.
- c. Whom has God given to teach us (1 John 2:27)? _____
- d. Bible study tools:
 - i. Other passages of Scripture
 - ii. Concordances (usually in the back of your Bible)
 - iii. Maps (usually in the back of your Bible)
 - iv. Study Bibles
 - v. Commentaries

4. Application

- a. Asks the question, “How does it work?” or “What effect will this have on my life?”
 - b. James 1:22. Once we have heard the Word of God, what should our response be? _____
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5. Repetition

- a. Continue to grow in your knowledge of the Word and dive deeper into each passage.
- b. Don’t think that because you have studied a passage once that you have discovered all the truths in that passage.
- c. We must continually be reminded of the truths of God’s Word so that we might live a holy life.
- d. Continue to read God’s Word!

Application

- 1. How are you investing the 168 hours that you have each week?
- 2. What are your habits for learning the Word of God?
- 3. Are there changes you need to make in your life for God’s Word to be a priority? If so, what are those changes?