

1. HOW CAN I DECIDE TO BECOME A SERIOUS STUDENT OF THE BIBLE?

You will become a daily, serious student of the Bible when you recognize that you absolutely need it and realize that we are commanded to study the Bible. Many believe they SHOULD study the Bible, but few are convinced that such study is INDISPENSABLE.

“Thy words were found, and I did **EAT THEM**; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.” Jeremiah 15:16

“But thou, son of man, hear what I say unto thee; Be not thou rebellious like that rebellious house: open thy mouth, and **EAT THAT I GIVE THEE**.” Ezekiel 2:8

“**Study to show thyself approved unto God**, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. II Timothy 2:15

2. WHAT WILL THE STUDY OF THE BIBLE DO FOR ME?

For the child of God Bible study will have a life-transforming impact upon your life in many ways. However, let us first discuss two very important Greek words that are translated as “WORD” into the English language:

A. LOGOS: The eternal, unchanging, complete, universal, word of God for all mankind (The Bible). **Jesus was the WORD (Logos) made flesh.**

B. RHEMA: The Spirit-quickened word that comes to an individual or group of individuals, at a specific time, for a specific circumstance.

“*But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by **EVERY WORD** (rhema) that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Matthew 4:4*

LEARN TO BUILD ON THE LOGOS AND MOVE ON THE RHEMA!!

As you study the Bible, the Holy Spirit will take what has been written and quicken it to your heart. In other words, the Logos will oftentimes become transformed into a Rhema for you and the Word of God will become a **LIVING WORD**, that will do the following...

*For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and **SHARPER** than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a **DISCERNER** of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” Hebrews 4:12*

1. _____ our thoughts and motives

*Wherewithal shall a young man **CLEANSE** his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. Psalms 119:9*

*Now ye are **CLEAN** through the word which I have spoken unto you. John 15:3*

2. _____ us from the pollutions of sin.

“As newborn babes, desire the sincere MILK of the word, that ye may grow thereby.” I Peter 2:2

“More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than HONEY and the HONEYCOMB.” Psalms 19:10

“For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong MEAT.” Hebrews 5:12

“Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary FOOD.” Job 23:12

3. Impart _____ to us.

“Thy word is a LAMP unto my feet, and a LIGHT unto my path.” Psalms 119:105

4. _____ our steps through life.

“And take the helmet of salvation, and the SWORD of the Spirit, WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD” Ephesians 6:17

5. Provide us with a _____ of victory over the enemy.

*“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his **DELIGHT IS IN THE LAW OF THE LORD**; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper...” Psalms 1:1-3*

“This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way PROSPEROUS, and then thou shalt have good success.” Joshua 1:8

6. Makes our life both _____ and _____

*“If ye abide in me, and **MY WORDS ABIDE IN YOU**, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.” John 15:7*

7. Will give us _____ to pray

*“Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the **JOY** and **REJOICING** of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.” Jeremiah 15:16*

*“I **REJOICE** at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil.” Psalms 119:162*

*“These things have I spoken unto you, that **MY JOY MIGHT REMAIN IN YOU**, and that **YOUR JOY MIGHT BE FULL**” John 15:11*

8. Gives us great _____ .

Some Additional Benefits from The Word of God

It gives us LIFE	(Ps 119:25)
We are LIBERATED from bondage	(John 8:31-32)
We Are PERFECTED By The Word	(II Timothy 3:16-17)
We are REGENERATED by the Word	(I Peter 1:23)

3. WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU FIND A WORD IN THE BIBLE THAT YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND?

The answer is quite simple... **You Look It Up!** Some words are explained in your regular English dictionary, but in order to get the fullest meaning, it's often best to utilize some of the essential Biblical study aids.

The following are a few suggested study aids:

Strong's Concordance of the Bible with Hebrew & Greek Dictionary

A Bible Dictionary

A Parallel Bible (contains several modern translations in one volume)

To thoroughly know the Bible, it is **ESSENTIAL** that we be taught by the Holy Spirit through anointed teaching ministries (**Ephesians 4:11-12**). However, it is equally important that you develop a personal experience with the Word of Life through a proper study pattern.

(9) **Write out the following scripture reference:**

Timothy 2:15

Also: Don't load yourself down with many books which interpret the Bible. The BIBLE itself, through the use of cross-references and the subject index, is its own best interpreter and commentary.

Some Pointers

- A. Italicized words in the King James version were not in the original Hebrew or Greek, they were added to merely help express the meaning of the verse.
- B. ¶ is a paragraph sign.
- C. Chapter and number verses are not inspired, but have been included as an aid for reference.
- D. A Bible with column references or margin references will be of help to you.

Reading The Bible:

Start reading the New Testament to familiarize yourself with the Life and work of our Lord Jesus Christ and what has been accomplished in the New Covenant. Then begin in Genesis and read your Bible through.

Continue re-reading your Bible for **THE REST OF YOUR LIFE.**

4. HOW SHOULD I STUDY THE BIBLE?

For daily devotional study, the average Christian will find it best to study the Bible by chapters. Some books like Jonah or Jude can be easily read at a single sitting, but the Gospel of Matthew would take about two hours of hard concentration.

For daily benefit, we recommend you study by chapters, rather than by **TOO LARGE** or **TOO SMALL** scripture portions.

5. SHOULD I EXPECT TO GET SOMETHING OUT OF EVERY CHAPTER?

All chapters will not have the same richness to you, but every chapter anywhere in the Bible will yield some spiritual teaching. Frequently, a chapter that involves the most thought, may yield the greatest teaching.

6. HOW OFTEN SHOULD I READ THE BIBLE?

We should read the Bible prayerfully every day. Along with strengthening our faith, daily scripture reading will give us help, guidance, comfort, hope, wisdom and joy.

(10) "But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate _____ and _____." Psalms 1:2

(11) “This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein _____ and _____, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.” Joshua 1:8

7. ARE THERE ANY ADDITIONAL METHODS OF BIBLE STUDY OTHER THAN CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER?

There are a number of good study methods. Here are a few:

1. **OUTLINE STUDY** of each book of the Bible. This covers the summary of the book, key verse, author, time covered and time of happenings, and the central theme.
2. **CHARACTER STUDIES** (I Corinthians 10:11). It is fascinating to study the men and women of the Bible. The truths of God are born in our hearts as we study the lives of Bible characters.
3. **DOCTRINAL STUDY**. Take each doctrine of the New Testament Church and trace it through the Bible.
4. **TYPES AND SHADOWS**. Study the symbolic illustrations of the Old Testament which give graphic meaning to Christ and His plan for the Church.
5. **STUDY THE LIFE OF CHRIST**. Study the Birth, Life, Ministry, Teachings, Suffering, Death and Resurrection of the One who is the Central figure of the Bible.

OTHER STUDIES include: Word Studies, Topical Studies, Prophetic Studies. Learn to pray by studying the prayers of the Bible and let the Holy Spirit begin to lead you.

Note

It is possible to know the ‘letter’ of the Bible and yet not understand nor comprehend its true spiritual significance. We must always seek the Lord’s help in interpreting the Bible.

“Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.” John 5:39-40

“It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.” John 6:63

(12) “Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter _____, but the spirit giveth _____” II Corinthians 3:6

8. WHAT IS THE BEST TIME FOR THE STUDY OF THE SCRIPTURES?

It should be at a time that you can have every day. It should be during a time of day when your faculties are keenest. Also, when you can have the greatest privacy and quiet.

9. DOES THE BIBLE ITSELF SUGGEST A TIME?

Yes. The Bible emphasizes the morning hours. In the morning our minds are unencumbered and we'll start the day with the faith and assurance that God's word brings to us. Besides, if we have had our Bible study, nothing that happens during the rest of the day can take it away.

"I prevented the dawning of the morning, and cried: I hoped in thy word." Psalms 119:147

"The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned." Isaiah 50:4

"My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O LORD; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up." Psalms 5:3

10. HOW MUCH OF THE BIBLE SHOULD I READ AT ONE TIME?

Read until some passage of Scripture really grips your heart! Read at least a chapter... ***DON'T BE STINGY WITH GOD'S TIME!***

11. WHAT SHOULD BE DONE AFTER BIBLE STUDY?

Follow your Bible study with MEDITATION: That is, think upon what you have just read. To meditate actually means to ponder, nurse, and to reflect. Get into the habit of approaching the truth of God in this reflective manner.

"My meditation of Him shall be sweet..." Psalm 104:34

Scriptures: Joshua 1:8; Psalm 1:1-2, 19:4, 119:15, 23, 48, 78, 97, 148

"Quote"

The intellect gathers and prepares the food upon which we are to feed. In meditation the heart takes it in and feeds on it. - Andrew Murray

12. IS IT IMPORTANT TO MAKE NOTES?

By using a small notebook or the margin of your Bible, thoughts are clarified into a permanent form. This gives a record of how God has spoken to you day by day, and it also helps refresh the memory concerning things that God has given you.

Recording what we have found from day to day, in a private notebook, diary, or in the margins of our Bible will **ENCOURAGE CAREFUL READING AND MEDITATION**. (see page 9)

13. IS BIBLE STUDY EASY?

It takes diligence to study the Bible. Bible study is the **STUDY** of the Bible, not dreaming over it, arguing about it, or even defending it.

(13) According to *Acts 17:11*, how often did the Bereans search out the scriptures? _____

(14) "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a _____ that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." II Timothy 2:15

"Quote"

The Bible yields its treasures to honest toil more readily than does any other serious literature. The Bible never yields to indolence. -Dr. G. Campbell Morgan

14. WHO WILL HELP US IN OUR PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY?

In addition to those who teach in the church, we have the Blessed Holy Spirit Himself who will illuminate the Bible to us. Children in school have textbooks **AND** teachers, this is also true in the Church.

(15) According to *John 14:26*, the Holy Spirit will _____ you all things

(16) According to *John 16:13*, the Holy Spirit will guide you into all _____

15. WHEN GOD SHOWS US SOMETHING IN BIBLE STUDY, HOW CAN WE MAKE IT PART OF OUR LIFE?

Whatever is revealed will become tremendously real in your life if you will **PRAYERFULLY TALK IT OVER WITH GOD**. Then, if action is required, **Do It...** Believe that God will enable you to accomplish it.

*“But be ye DOERS OF THE WORD, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.”
James 1:22*

16. IS THERE ANYTHING THAT COULD HINDER THE EFFECT OF THE WORD OF GOD IN MY LIFE?

Yes. The following are the (3) main things that could hinder the word of God from working in your life...

1. Exalting our TRADITIONS above the Word

What did Jesus accuse the Pharisees of?

Read [Mark 7:7, 13](#)

2. Unbelief Towards The Word

Why did Jesus rebuke the disciples who were on the road to Emmaus?

Read [Luke 24:25](#)

3. Hearing the Word only

What warning is given to us about just hearing the Word of God? And what is the man like who only hears the Word of God?

Read [James 1:22-25](#)

Illustration of
A Bible Study Note Page

Biblical Text	Plain Teaching	Truth / Principle	Rhema (Personal Instruction)
<i>Matt. 5:43-48</i>	Love those who are very difficult to love. When we do this we reflect the nature of our Heavenly Father (V.48)	The consistent expression of my love should never be determined by its object. Love both friend and enemy	I need to demonstrate acts of kindness to Joe even though he's been mistreating me at work.
<i>Romans 15:1-7</i>	It's the responsibility of stronger Christians to be patient with the weaknesses of weaker and younger believers.	As Christ genuinely received me even with my weaknesses, so must I genuinely receive others within the body (v.3,7). If it will edify the other, it's right (v.2).	I must not complain about brother Jim's weakness and instead, begin to actively & deliberately attempt to build him up.
<i>Gen. Chapter 1</i>	God created all things. All that He created was GOOD! Take that Mr. Darwin!	God is Omnipotent and all that He creates is Good and has it's purpose! <i>(Phil 1:6; Jas. 1:17)</i>	I can be sure that God is going to come out of this job situation, even though it doesn't seem so, because God is truly at work! Praise The Lord!! <i>Rom. 8:28</i>

TRUTH IN REVIEW

EAT
MILK
LOGOS
SWORD
PROSPEROUS
BREAD

EARLY
JOY
RHEMA
JESUS CHRIST
DAILY
LETTER

LIBERATE
LAMP
UNBELIEF
TRADITIONS
DECEPTION
IDENTITY

1. The Word will _____ us from bondage
2. David said, “ _____ will I seek thee”
3. Self _____ comes when we are hearers only and doers.
4. The word of God is the _____ of the Spirit.
5. The _____ is God’s word to all mankind.
6. We are not only called to read the word but to _____ it.
7. The Word will make our way _____ .
8. The Bible was written to reveal _____ .
9. The Word is a _____ unto our feet .
10. The _____ kills but the Spirit makes alive!
11. If you only hear the Word then you’ll soon loose the revelation of your spiritual _____ .
12. Jesus called his disciples “Fools!” because of their _____ .
13. Man shall not live by _____ alone
14. The Word of God brings _____ to the heart.
15. We should desire the word like newborn babes desire _____ .
16. The Spirit-quickened word is called the _____ .
17. We are called to meditate upon the word _____ .
18. _____ can make the Word Of God of none affect within our lives.

Memorize: *Joshua 1:8; Psalm 119:105; Ephesians 6:17*