

WEEK #1 Introduction

This is a very important study. It is the foundation of all Bible study. If you want something to last, you have to build on a solid foundation.

Because of the power of God's Word, this will be an awesome opportunity to expose seekers of the truth of Scripture.

Will you take a moment and make a personal commitment to Jesus Christ after reading the following verses.

- 2 Timothy 2:15
- 2 Timothy 3:14-17
- 2 Peter 1:3-8
- James 1:21-25
- 2 Corinthians 3:17-18
- Psalm 119:97-105
- Psalm 1:1-6

Personal Commitment to Christ:

Take aways

- I recommend that you get a notebook to keep all your study sheets together
- Take some time to reflect on the Personal Bible Study Check-up questions
- Pray for someone you know that would benefit from this study
- Ask that person and others to come next week

Personal Bible Study Check-up

Be honest... 😊

1. Have you ever read the entire Bible all the way through?
2. How often per week do you spend reading your Bible?
3. How often per week do you spend studying your Bible?
4. When you study, do you understand what you are reading?
5. Do you think it is possible to understand the Bible?
6. Will you commit to spending time each day with God in the Bible?
7. Do you have fun when you read and study the Bible?
8. Do you take time during the week to review your notes from Sunday's teaching?
9. Do you like detective movies?
10. Are you tired of me asking questions?
11. What do you really enjoy doing for fun?

I. The Word of God _____ lives!

1. It is the agent which God uses to bring forth life.

Psalm 33:6-9	By the word of the LORD were the heavens made...For he spake, and it was done...
John 11:43	And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth.
1 Pet 1:23-25	Being born again...by the word of God...But the word of the Lord endureth for ever...
Mattt 24:35	Heaven and earth shall pass away, by my words shall not pass away.

Key Point:

- IF** God's Word can make something out of _____;
- IF** God's Word can raise a _____ man from a grave;
- IF** God's Word can deliver the salvation of one's _____;
- IF** God's Word will endure for ever and _____ pass away...

THEN...we ought to...

- Pay close attention to it!
- Read it!
- Believe it!
- Study it!
- Memorize it!
- Obey it!
- Love it!
- ...for the rest of our lives!!!

2. Consider the time in which we live.

Amos 8:11-12	Behold, the days come...I will send a famine...but of hearing the words of the LORD:
2 Timothy 3:1-7	...the last days...Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth
Daniel 12:4	...the time of the end...many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.

Key Point:

The time of Amos is a lot like the time in which we live...materialistic, prosperous, swelling church attendance, but no one really knows God, no one is preaching and no one is _____.

The time of 2 Timothy is now...

This is why we must pay attention to what God says in His Word!

II. Foundational principles of Bible study

1. The Bible is _____ difficult to understand. We make it difficult by _____ believing every word we read.

2 Peter 3:16 ...in which are some things hard to be understood...

2 Cor 11:1-3 ...as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty...simplicity that is in Christ.

Gen 2:16-1 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying...

Genesis 3:1-3 Now the serpent was more subtil...Yea, hath God said... (Questions)

Genesis 3:4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: (Contradicts)

Genesis 3:5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof... (Changes)

Note: Why? Satan understands something...

1 Thess 2:13 ...when ye received the word of God...ye received it...as it is in truth, the word of God...

2. Anyone can get a working knowledge of the Bible if they want it. There is ___ special secret, ___ magic formula. An education may be helpful, but it is _____ necessary. Knowledge of other languages can be helpful, but it is _____ necessary.

The disciples were common men, not scholars.

Mark 12:37 ...And the common people heard him gladly.

Rev 2:6 ...thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitanes, which I also hate.

Rev 2:15 ...the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes, which thing I hate.

God wrote the Bible to reveal truth, not hide it.

Ps 119:105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Ps 119:130 The entrance of thy words giveth light...

Prov 6:23 For the commandment is a lamp, and the law is light...

3. The Holy Spirit teaches the Bible. God can and will use other instruments (preachers, Bible teachers, tapes, CD's, books, etc.), but all truth is imparted by the Holy Spirit. How much you learn depends _____ on your responsiveness to Him.

Note: I will not teach you anything throughout this class series. What you learn will depend on your reliance upon the Holy Spirit to be your teacher as you – by faith – believe what the Bible clearly says.

John 14:16, 26 ...But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost...he shall teach you all things...

John 16:7-13 ...Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth...

1 Cor 2:9-16 ...but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual...

Note: Only the Holy Ghost can reveal truth...

In this respect, God did not author a Bible that anyone could understand!

4. Why are there “rules” of Bible study?

- There are rules to just about everything else ...

1 Cor 14:40 Let all things be done decently and in order.

...governmental operation, traffic, medicine, mechanics, engineering, sports, cooking, nature (gravity), life (golden rule, etc.)...everything! Think about it...when people come to the living, eternal Word of God, then we throw the rules out the window! No! This violates common sense and logic!

During this study, we will be looking at ____ basic rules (there are more)...these rules come from the Bible itself, and just good, sound, common sense!

- The study of scriptural interpretation is called **HERMENEUTICS**.

It is the science of interpreting the Bible. It is a man-made term. It is important to know it for future reference.