

Basic Training – Lesson 2 “Study Skills”



Optional Ice Breakers:

- ? What are some skills you've acquired in your life? (Through schooling, work, family, etc.)
- ? What comes to mind when you hear the word “study”?

Bottom Line: Studying God's word helps us to determine truth and distinguish it from lies.

Bible Text: Acts 17:10-12; 2 Timothy 2:15

Background: Studying scripture is key to our training and development in God's word. While reading gets us into the habit of encountering God through His word, study helps us to discern God's truth and understand the proper meaning of His word. When we read the New Testament, we see that studying the scriptures was paramount for believers in the early church and expected of new disciples of Jesus.

Read Acts 17:10-12 (NIRV)

As soon as it was night, the believers sent Paul and Silas away to Berea. When they arrived, they went to the Jewish synagogue. ¹¹ The Berean Jews were very glad to receive Paul's message. They studied the Scriptures carefully every day. They wanted to see if what Paul said was true. So they were more noble than the Thessalonian Jews. ¹² Because of this, many of the Berean Jews believed. A number of important Greek women also became believers. And so did many Greek men.

Read 2 Timothy 2:15 (AMP)

Study and do your best to present yourself to God approved, a workman [tested by trial] who has no reason to be ashamed, accurately handling and skillfully teaching the word of truth.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why did the Berean Jews study the scriptures? How often did they do this? (Acts 17:11)
2. What was the result of this group committing themselves to study? (Hint: v. 12)
3. Why did Paul encourage Timothy to study the scriptures? (2 Timothy 2:15) Is it possible to handle God's word accurately apart from study?

Group Activity:

The secret to effective Bible study is knowing how to ask the right questions. For this activity, take the two passages above (Acts 17 and 2 Timothy 2) and answer the *Who, What, When, Where, Why* questions. Use the chart on the back to answer the questions. (You may want to assign each group member to answer specific questions for time purposes.)

Prayer Time

Take time to pray for one another as a group.

| | Acts 17: 10-12 | 2 Timothy 2:15 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| WHO? (author & recipient) | | |
| WHAT/WHY? (purpose of letter) | | |
| WHEN? (when it was written) | | |
| WHERE? (historical setting) | | |