Study The Bible As The Word of God

Learn some practical tips for engaging with and getting the most out of your time in *God's* living, active *Word*. If you want to see areas of your life change, learn to truly *study* the Bible. Why Should I *Study* the Bible? The Bible is no ordinary book. The *words* within its pages are like...

The Bible is the Word of God, and we get the most good out of any book by studying it as what it really is. It is often said that we should study the Bible just as we study any other book. That principle contains a truth, but it also contains a great error. The Bible, it is true, is a book as other books are books, the same laws of grammatical and literary construction and interpretation hold here as hold in other books. But the Bible is an entirely unique book. It is what no other book is - The Word of God. This can be easily proven to any candid person. The Bible ought then to be studied as no other book is. It should be studied as the Word of God. "And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe."(1 Thes. 2:13.)

This Involves Five Things.

1. We must know the Mind of God; here it is revealed.

A greater eagerness and more careful and candid study to find out just what it teaches than is bestowed upon any other book or upon all other books.

2. A prompt and unquestioning Acceptance of and Submission to its Teachings

When definitely ascertained, even when these teachings appear to us unreasonable or impossible. If this book is the "Word of God" how foolish to submit its teachings to the criticism of our finite reason. The little boy, who discredits his wise father's statements because to his infant mind they appear unreasonable, is not a philosopher but a fool. When we are once satisfied that the Bible is the "Word of God", it's clear teachings must be the end of all controversy and discussion.

3. Absolute reliance upon all its Promises in all their length and breadth and depth and height.

The one who studies the Bible as the "Word of God" will say of every promise no matter how vast and beyond belief it appears, "God who cannot lie has promised this, so I claim it for myself." Mark the promises you thus claim. Look each day for some new promise from your infinite Father. "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus." at your disposal. (Phil. 4:19)

4. Obedience--prompt, exact, unquestioning, joyous Obedience.

To every command that is evident from the context applies to you. Be on the lookout for new orders from the King. Blessing lies in the direction of obedience to them. God's commands are but signboards that mark the road to present success and blessedness and to eternal glory.

5. Studying the Bible as the "Word of God".

Involves studying it as His own voice speaking directly to you. When you open the Bible to study it realize that you have come into the very presence of God and that now He is going to speak to you. Every hour thus spent in Bible study will be an hour's walk and talk with God.

6. Study the Bible Prayerfully.

The author of the book is willing to act as interpreter of it. He does so when we ask Him to. The one who prays with earnestness and faith, the Psalmist's prayer, "Open Thou mine eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy law," will get his eyes opened to see beauties and wonders in the Word that he never dreamed of before.

Be very definite about this. Each time you open the Bible to study it for a few minutes or many, ask God to give you the open and discerning eye, and expect Him to do it. Every time you come to a difficulty lay it before God and ask an explanation and expect it. How often we think as we puzzle over hard passages, "Oh if I only had so and so here to explain this." **God is always present. Take it to Him.**

7. Look for Christ, He is everywhere in the Bible.

"And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself" Be on the lookout for Him and mark His presence when you find it.

8. Improve spare moments in Bible Study.

In almost every person's life many minutes each day are lost; while waiting for meals, bus, appointments, while riding in the car, etc. Carry a pocket Bible or Testament with you and save these golden minutes by putting them to the very best use listening to the voice of God. Or on your cell phone using Bible App's like YouVersion or The Bible App can be easily used for reading and study helps. You can find many Bible versions and study guides on either App.

9. Store away the Scripture in your mind and heart.

It will keep you from sin "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you." (Palms 119:11.).

From false doctrine (Acts 20:29, 30, 32, 2 Timothy. 3:13-15).

It will fill your heart with joy (Jeremiah 15:16), and peace (Psalms. 85:8).

It will give you the victory over the Evil One (1 John 2:14)

It will give you power in prayer (John 15:7)

It will make you wiser than the aged and your enemies (Psalms.

<u>119:100</u>, <u>98</u>, <u>130</u>.)

It will make you "complete, furnished completely unto every good work." "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." (2 Tim. 3:16, 17)

Try it. Do not memorize at random but memorize Scripture in a connected way. Memorize texts bearing on various subjects in proper order. Memorize by chapter and verse that you may know where to put your finger upon the text if anyone disputes it.

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