

A Light for my Path (Part 5)
“How to Study the Bible Today?”
(Psalms 119:105 & 2 Timothy 2:15)

Introduction: Did you know that you exist to glorify God? In fact, It is the calling of every human being to glorify God. This is why we were created and why we exist. (Isa. 43: 6,7; 1 Cor. 10:31) How do we do that? We do it, by knowing Him accurately in our thoughts. We do it, by enjoying Him intensely in our emotions (as we walk with Him). And, we do it, by reflecting Him appropriately and consistently in our actions. The truth is, those who neglect this truth, forfeit the accurate knowledge of God, are turned over by God to foolish, purposeless lives and thinking. (Rom. 1:21). So, The best way for us gain the knowledge of God that will lead us to lives that glorify God, is through the study of the Bible, God’s word!

There are tremendous things that await you as you take on the task and reward of reading and studying the Bible! So, “How do we study the Bible today?” I want to show you four things today that will help you correctly and productively, study the Bible today.

1. Read the Bible:

A. This is the one thing necessary to hear from God –

1. **Jesus told Martha** – (Lk 10:41-42)
2. **David said** – (Ps. 27: 4)
3. **The wisest man in the world said** – (Eccl 12:13)
4. **Isaiah reminds us** – (Isa 55:8-9)

B. It is also, the one thing necessary to study the word of God –
(2 Tim. 3:16, 17)

C. It is the one thing necessary to know the Word of God –

1. How should we read it?

a. Understand where you are reading.

• **The Old Testament:**

First 5 books are Law, next 12 books are history, the next 5 books are poetry, the last 17 books are prophecy

• **The New Testament:**

First 4 books are gospels (4 biographies of Jesus), the next is 1 book of history, the next 13 are letters from Paul, then there are 8 personal letters, finally 1 prophetic book (next...)

b. Understand how to read it -

c. Understand what you are reading. (type of literature)

d. Understand why you are reading. Ps. 119:11; Col. 3:16
(Isa. 28:9-10)

2. Interpret the Bible:

A. While there are many applications of God’s word – there is only one truth. We must approach God’s word with open, honest hearts about “What is God saying to me?”

B. Proper interpretation follows four steps –

1. **Observation** – What is it saying?
2. **Interpretation** – What does it mean?
3. **Coloration** – What other or additional verse explain it..
4. **Application** – What will I do about it?

3. Meditate on the Bible: We can’t be in a hurry and study the Bible. (Take your time and take it in.) **Deut 6:6-7**

A. God’s word should be in our mind –

B. If you want to fill your mind with good things, godly things, fill it with the word of God. Ps 1:1-2

C. Filling our minds with God’s word is God’s plan –

4. Teach the Bible: I have discovered the best way to learn it, is to give it away!

A. What I learned well enough to teach... –

B. But, in order to teach – you must master your subject.

The real reason we study the Bible – Is to glorify God by knowing God, walking with God and sharing God with others!

Conclusion: When we view the Bible as a lifeline designed to help us know God, glorify God and keep you safe through the storms of life, we’ll begin to take hold of it more seriously.

Only then will we *read it, interpret it, meditate on it and teach it like it is* the tremendous recourse for life that it is!

My prayer is – through this study, you have regained a hunger and thirst for discovering the riches of God’s word.

That you will commit to the daily reading, studying and filling of your mind and life with God’s truth...