

How to Study the Bible Today
“Who Can Study the Bible Today?”
(Psalms 119:105 & 1 Peter 2:1, 2)

Introduction: We live in a unique time in terms of information. Anyone can say anything. There is so much information, so many people creating it, and so many agendas behind it. (You may wonder, who is policing all of this information? The answer is nobody. And everybody. But, you, yourself, are responsible for determining what information you are consuming and what you do about it. (This is why “daily” reading, studying and obeying the Bible is so important!) The purpose of this pulpit ministry is stimulate the people in seats! I want you to read, study and obey the word of God so you can know, it, live it and share it with others! This is what Paul reminded young Timothy to do. He wrote...(2 Tim 2:2) Someone says, “Well I just find it difficult and there are too many distractions that keep me from the Bible.” Let me give you some facts you need to know: First, We read and study the Bible to know “God’s voice (2 Tim. 3:16, 17; Hos 4:1, 6) (Prov. 1:20-33; Rom. 12:2; Eph. 4:23; Phil 1:9; 4:8b; Col. 1:10; 2 Pe. 3:18; 2 Tim. 3:17; Prov. 24:13- 14a) To do otherwise is to put ourselves at risk!

Secondly, We read and study the Bible to live it. (*Lk 11:28; Jn 14:15; 1 Jn 5:3*) (Deut. 5:29; Josh. 1:8; Isa. 55:9-11; Ps. 138:2; 119:1, 2,11). So, we need to read and study the Bible to hear God’s voice and obey it...This is the most important information for us to be filled with today! *And*, the truth is, anyone with these six qualifications can successfully study the Bible today!

I. Those who are believers today:

A. Only true believers can study the Bible and understand it – .

1. God has revealed His truth to us – (1 Cor 2:10)
2. God reveals His truth internally and not externally (vv. 6- 14)
3. If you don’t have the Holy Spirit, you can’t understand the word of God – (vv.11-13)

B. Non-believers can study the Bible, but they just cannot understand it – (v. 14)

1. Because they don’t have the Holy Spirit –
 2. The things of the Bible are foolish and confusing to him.
 3. The things of the Bible are rejected by him - (however...)
- C. There can be turning point – (Jer. 29:13; Rom. 1:16; 10: 17)**

II. Those who are diligent today:

A. We must approach God’s word with open hearts, ready to receive it – (Ac. 17:1-12) (Mt. 13:3-9)

B. We must approach God’s word with a personal commitment to learn from it – (2 Tim. 2:15; 1 Tim. 5:17)

III. Those who have a great desire today:

A. Those who have a desire, hunger for the word. (1 Peter 2:2-3)

B. Those who have a desire, seek it - *Prov 2:4* (Jb. 28:1-18)

IV. Those who are holy today: Don’t panic – this is God given.

A. Peter describes what happens (*1 Pe 2:1-2*)

1. First, we repent or turn away from sin.
 - a. We turn away from sin.
 - b. We confess or agree with God.
 - c. Once we confess our sin and turn from it, (1 Jn. 1:9) Now we are holy...
2. Second, we turn to God’s Word (Ps. 119:11 -16)
James says it this way, (Js. 1:21)

V. Those who are Spirit - filled today:

A. The Apostle John explains how this works –*1 John 2:20*

B. In verse 27 he further explains – (Jn. 14:26; 16:13)

VI. Those who are prayerful today: We could draw a circle around all the other requirements, and this would be the center piece!

A. The first thing I should do – When I sit down with God’s Word is seek His help in prayer!

B. *Paul prayed, (Eph 1:16-19)* We would do well to pray a prayer like this every time we approach God’s Word.

C. Prayer is much more than a way to ask God for things we need or want – it is also how we hear His voice.

Conclusion: We live in a unique time in terms of information. But, the most important information we have at our disposal today, is the word of God. But, you have to be the right “who” to study the Bible or the “how” won’t matter. For today, let’s make sure we are one who can study the Bible today? If you are, and you will, it will be a productive and life-changing experience for you! (Will you commit to it?)