

Introduction to Bible Study

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: John 8:31-32, Matthew 22:29, II Timothy 3:16-17.
- B. What marks a disciple of Christ is a regular intake of God's Word.
- C. The Word of God helps with salvation and sanctification.
- D. People do not study God's Word because they do not know how, they have not experienced the personal joy of discovery and they do not like to study.

II. Basic principles for Bible study.

- A. Knowing how to ask the right questions.
- B. Writing notes.
- C. Applying the Word as the ultimate goal.
- D. God's Word deserves to be studied systematically.
 - 1. Observe.
 - 2. Ask questions.
 - 3. Correlate the material.
 - 4. Summarize findings and draw conclusions.
 - 5. Apply the results.
 - 6. Methods: devotional, chapter and character.
- E. One can never exhaust truth from a passage.

III. Preparation.

- A. Lock out a time for Bible study every week.
- B. Bible study should not happen every day—quiet time should happen every day.
- C. The best time to study the Bible is when one is at his best.
- D. Keep a notebook.
- E. Get the right tools.

1. A good study Bible.
2. Several translations.
3. A concordance such as Young's.
4. A Bible dictionary such as Eardman's.
5. A topical Bible.
6. A Bible handbook.
7. A word study set.
8. Some commentaries.

F. Spend time in prayer before Bible study. (Ephesians 1:18, Psalm 119:18)

Application questions:

1. Which of the basic principles surprised you or stood out to you the most? Explain.

2. Why is it important to separate one's quiet time from his Bible study time?

3. What are the most important tools for Bible study? What do they do?
