

Bible Study

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Psalm 19:10ff.

B. The Bible is the greatest treasure in the world and we have it in our hands. The issue is that it's a gold mine- we have to mine it to get the treasure.

II. There are certain requirements of "mining" the scripture. (Proverbs 2:1-5)

A. The first requirement for a "gold miner" is a receptive heart. (Ezekiel 3:10; John 7:17; Acts 17)

1. We hear what we want to hear.

2. We tend to go the Bible to prove what we already think instead of modifying what we think to fit the scripture.

B. The second requirement for a "gold miner" is to horde up God's Word in our hearts. (Psalm 119:11)

1. Good Bible study includes committing scripture to memory.

C. The third requirement for a "gold miner" is a spirit of expectancy and attention.

1. We will get out of Bible study what we expect to get out of it. No expectations reap little reward.

2. God will respond to our expectancy with scripture appropriate to the situation that we are in.

D. The fourth requirement for Bible study is that we apply all of who we are to finding "gold" in the scripture with anticipation.

E. The fifth requirement for Bible study is to pray for wisdom and insight as we study the Bible. (Luke 10:21)

1. One reason we don't get anything out of Bible study is because we think we already think we know everything, so we don't pray for insight. (Luke 24:45)

2. We must have open minds to understanding the scripture as revealed by God.

F. Prayer doesn't take the place of diligence. We must seek the treasure of scripture the same way we would earthly treasure.

IV. If we do Bible study this way, we will find the fear of the Lord and come to know Him. This is where life change happens.

Application questions:

1. Has your position on an issue ever been challenged by something you read in the Bible? How did you respond to that?

2. What keeps us from being open to changing our minds because of scripture? How can we foster a spirit of openness to scripture in our own hearts?

3. What is difficult about practicing diligence in Bible study? What are some practical things you can do to help yourself be diligent?
