

GOSPEL DRIVEN BIBLE STUDY

Ezra 7:10 "For Ezra had set his heart to study the law of the Lord and to practice it, and to teach His statutes and ordinances in Israel."

1. Set his Heart –

- a. Motivations for setting our heart to study God's word:
 - i. Our supreme motivation must be the Gospel
 1. 2 Corinthians 5:15
 - ii. Review of the Gospel
 1. Exodus 34:6-7
 - a. The great question for all humanity; How can a just God forgive sinners and remain just?
 2. God's Nature – Holy, Perfect and Just
 3. Man's Fallen Nature
 - a. All condemned due to the sin of Adam – Romans 5:18a
 - b. Dead in our sins – Ephesians 2:1
 - c. Children of Wrath – Ephesians 2:3
 - d. Enemies of God – Romans 5:10
 - e. Hostile toward God and Cannot please God – Romans 8:7-8
 4. Christ's Accomplishment
 - a. Romans 5:8-11
 - i. Acted while we were undeserving sinners
 - ii. Justified or declared righteous by Christ blood
 - iii. Saved from the wrath of God that is due to all sinners
 - iv. His perfect life is imputed to us
 - v. Reconciliation to God
 - b. Our Response – 2 Corinthians 5:15
 - b. Other Motivations for setting our heart to study God's word:
 - i. God has revealed Himself through his Word
 - ii. Teaches us how to Abide in Christ - John 1:1 and John 15:4
 - iii. Protects us from temptation and sin - Psalms 119:9,11
 - iv. Brings about abundant life - John 10:10
 - c. Why must we set our heart?
 - i. Our sanctification is described as struggle, a war, a race
 1. Struggle - Ephesians 6:12
 2. Warfare - 2 Timothy 2:4
 3. Endurance - Hebrews 12:1-2
 - ii. Our sanctification is a working of God in our lives that calls for our effort:
 1. Philippians 2:12-13

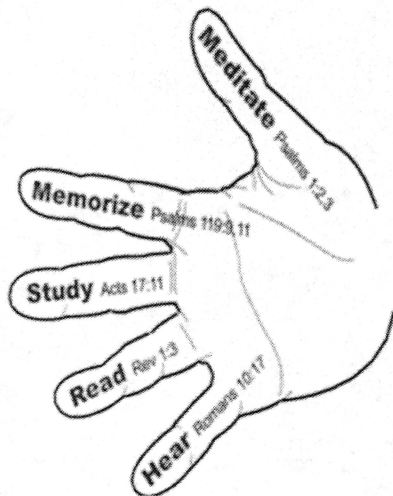
2. To Study the law of the Lord

- a. How do we approach the bible?
 - i. As the word of God
 1. 2 Peter 2:20-21
 2. 1 Thessalonians 2:13

- ii. Sufficient - 2 Tim 3:15-17
 - 1. Source of wisdom leading to salvation
 - 2. Authoritative in daily living
 - iii. Inerrant – Without Error - Psalms 19:7
 - iv. Infallible – Is not only without error but incapable of error
 - v. Important questions to remember as we study God’s word.
 - 1. Where does this fit within God’s revealed plan of redemption?
 - 2. What is the literary genre?
 - a. Historical/Narrative Books, Poetic Books, Prophetic Books
 - 3. What is the historical and cultural context
 - a. Historical in the context of time
 - 4. What is the Grammatical Context?
 - a. Tense, subject, verb, simile, etc.
- b. Bible Study is not bible reading

Hand Illustration

**Notice Bible Reading and Bible Study are two separate fingers. Bible Reading gives us the forest. Bible study dives into the individual trees. We need both.*



*Romans 10:17 "So Faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ."
Revelation 1:3 "Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and ^[b]heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near."
Acts 17:11 "Now these were more noble minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the scriptures daily to see whether these things were so."
Psalms 119:9 & 11 "How can a young man keep his way pure, by keeping it according to Your Word...Your word I have treasure in my heart that I may not sin against you."
Psalms 1:2-3 "But his delight is in the law of the lord and on his law he meditates day and night."*

c. **Steps in bible study**

- i. Observation – What do I see or notice. What questions do I have.
- ii. Correlation – How does it relate to the rest of scripture
- iii. Interpretation – What does this passage mean.
- iv. Application – How do I apply this to my life

d. **Observation**

- i. "Answers the question, "What do I see?" Here the bible student approaches the text as a detective. No detail is unimportant; no stone is left unturned. Every observation is carefully listed for further thought and comparisons." *A Layman’s Guide to Interpreting the Bible*
 Walter A. Henrichsen

- ii. This is the Who, What, When, Why, Where, How, etc. questions we ask while examining the text.
- a. **Correlation**
 - i. An accurate understanding of any verse within the bible takes into account all the bible has to say about this subject.
 - ii. Cross referencing passages
 - 1. Importance of wide range of reading to be able to see the whole of what Scripture teaches.
- b. **Interpretation**
 - i. **Goal of interpretation** – “What was the original, divinely intended meaning of the author who wrote this text”
 - ii. There is only one correct interpretation of every passage of scripture in the bible
 - iii. Use our observations and correlations to the help assist in a correct interpretation
 - iv. Most important rule of Interpretation is Context, Context, Context
 - v. Common Interpretation Mistakes
 - 1. Ignoring the Context - 1 Cor 3:11-15
 - 2. Personalizing the Passage - Jer 29:11
 - 3. Allegorizing the Text to get a “spiritual” meaning
 - 4. Omission or Addition - Revelation 22:18-19
 - 5. Eisegesis – inserting our own meaning into the text
 - a. Exegesis – extracting the meaning from the text
- c. **Application**
 - i. Application of what we read is essential.
 - 1. James 1:22
 - 2. James 4:17
 - ii. There are unlimited applications to any one passage
 - iii. It is important that we have an accurate interpretation of the passage before we make an application on the passage.
 - iv. Memorize verses associated with your application verses.

SMALL GROUP BREAKOUT

Read the verse below. Make a running list of observations (o), interpretations (i), correlations (c) and applications (a) from the scripture.

2 Corinthians 5:17 “Therefore if anyone is in Christ he is a new creature, the old things passed away, behold new things have come.”

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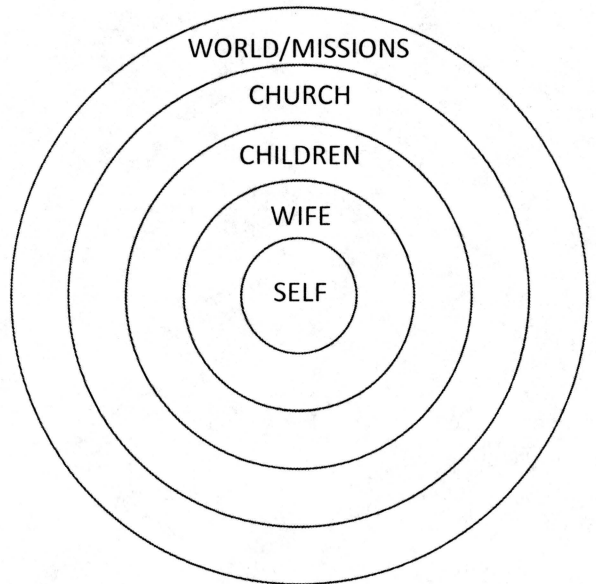
3. To Practice It

- a. Why do I study God’s word?
- b. How do I study God’s word?
- c. What Fruit has come from studying God’s word?

2 Corinthians 5:21, John 1:1-3, John 10:10, Psalm 23:1, John 17:3, John 10:14, Psalm 111:10, Colossians 3:1-3, 1 Corinthians 9:23, John 14:21, John 3:30, John 14:26, Acts 17:11, John 15:7, 1 Peter 3:15

4. To Teach His statutes and ordinances in Israel

- a. Teach yourself - 1 Peter 3:15
- b. Teach your wife - Ephesians 5:22-23
- c. Teach your children - Deuteronomy 6:6-7
- d. Teach other men - Titus 2:2
- e. World and Missions – 2 Corinthians 5:18-20



Sample Memory Verse Study

Isaiah 53:6

- a) All of us like sheep have gone astray,
- b) Each of us has turned to his own way;
- c) But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him.

a. for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, (Romans 3:23)

a. And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest. (Eph 2:1-3)

a. And although you were formerly alienated and hostile in mind, engaged in evil deeds, (Col 1:21)

a. Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned— (Romans 5:12)

b. There is a way which seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death. (Proverbs 14:12)

b. remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. (Ephesians 2:12)

b. Every man's way is right in his own eyes, But the LORD weighs the hearts. (Proverbs 21:2)

b. "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," declares the LORD.

"For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts. (Isaiah 55:8-9)

c. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

c. But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), (Ephesians 2:4-5)

c. My flesh and my heart may fail, But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. (Psalm 73:26)

c. The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever. (Isaiah 40:8)

c. When the disciples heard *this*, they were very astonished and said, "Then who can be saved?" And looking at *them* Jesus said to them, "With people this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." (Matthew 19:25-26)

c. I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth. So then neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but God who causes the growth. (1 Corinthians 3:6-7)

c. As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive. (Genesis 50:20)

c. For indeed he was sick to the point of death, but God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, so that I would not have sorrow upon sorrow. (Philippians 2:27)

c. But God raised Him from the dead; (Acts 13:30)

