

## Studying The Word Of God

II Timothy 2:8-15

## COMMANDED

- **Study** – “application of the mental faculties to the acquisition of knowledge ...” (Merriam-Webster Dictionary)
  - II Timothy 2:15, “Study ...” (KJV)
- **Meditate** – “to focus one’s thoughts on: reflect on or ponder over” (Ibid)
  - Philippians 4:8, “... meditate on these things”; Psalms 1:1-2

## COMMANDED

- **Search** – “to look into or over carefully or thoroughly in an effort to find or discover something” (Merriam-Webster Dictionary)
  - Acts 17:11, “... searched the Scriptures daily ...”
- **Understand** – “to grasp the meaning of” (Ibid)
  - Ephesians 5:17, “... understand what the will of the Lord is.”

## ATTITUDES FOR STUDY

- **Reverence** – Never forget this is the Word of God. It is due proper respect
  - I Thessalonians 2:13 – “... what it really is, the word of God”

## ATTITUDES FOR STUDY

- **Honesty** – many approach study with improper motives
  - No confidence
    - cf. Hebrews 10:19-23, “... a true heart in full assurance of faith”
  - Prejudice
    - cf. Romans 15:5-7, “... with one voice glorify ...”

## ATTITUDES FOR STUDY

- **Honesty** – many approach study with improper motives
  - To find fault
    - cf. I Thessalonians 2:13, “... the word of God”
  - As trivia
    - cf. Hebrews 4:12, “... discerning the thoughts ...”

## ATTITUDES FOR STUDY

- **Desire** – you **want** to learn. A great hindrance to adequate study!
  - Psalms 119:97, "... how I love your law"
  - cf. II Thessalonians 2:10, "they refused to love the truth ..."

## ATTITUDES FOR STUDY

- **Diligence** – a willingness to work at it. If it's worth having, it's worth the effort.
  - II Timothy 2:15, "a worker ... rightly handling the word ..."
  - Proverbs 2:1-9, "... seek it like silver ..."
- Laziness – a killer
  - Proverbs 13:4, "The soul of the sluggard ..."

## ATTITUDES FOR STUDY

- **Direction** – formulate a plan of systematic study
  - II Timothy 3:16-17, "equipped for every good work"
  - Matthew 4:4, "... by every word that comes from the mouth of God"

## ATTITUDES FOR STUDY

- **Dedication** – requires time and organization. Set aside a time on a regular basis.
- Our Bibles ought to get worn out.

## SUGGESTIONS FOR STUDY

- Give the Word a fair hearing
- Remove prejudice
  - Complete your study before reaching a conclusion
- Context, context, context
- Remove emotions

## SUGGESTIONS FOR STUDY

- Accept Scripture at face value
- We must begin with what the text actually says.
  - I Corinthians 2:1-5, "... rest ... in the power of God"
- Not numerology, date setting, etc.
  - cf. II Peter 3:14-17, "... the ignorant and unstable twist ..."

## SUGGESTIONS FOR STUDY

- Let the Bible interpret itself
- Context, common sense, use what is clearly taught to help explain that which is challenging
  - Hebrews 5:14, "... trained by constant practice ..."
- The Bible does not contradict itself; God does not confuse
  - I Corinthians 14:33a, 40, "... not a God of confusion ... decently and in order"

## SUGGESTIONS FOR STUDY

- Use Bible study aids wisely
  - Dictionary
  - Concordance
  - Bible dictionary
  - Other versions

Proverbs 23:23, "Buy truth, and do not sell it; buy wisdom, instruction, and understanding."

Do you want to go to heaven?  
If so, how much time will you devote with the source that tells you how to get there?

## "What Must I Do To Be Saved?"

- **Hear the Word of God** Acts 16:30
  - James 1:21 – "Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and **receive with meekness the implanted word**, which is able to save your souls."
- **Believe that Jesus is the Savior**
  - Romans 10:11 – "For the Scripture says, '**Everyone who believes in him** will not be put to shame.'"

## "What Must I Do To Be Saved?"

- ▶ **Repent of your sins** Acts 16:30
  - ▶ Acts 3:19 – "**Repent** therefore, and turn again, **that your sins may be blotted out**"
- ▶ **Confess that Jesus is the Son of God**
  - ▶ Romans 10:10 – "For with the heart one believes and is justified, and **with the mouth one confesses** and is saved."

## “What Must I Do To Be Saved?”

- **Be immersed in water (baptized)** Acts 16:30
  - Acts 2:38 – “And Peter said to them, ‘Repent and **be baptized every one of you** in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’”
- **Remain faithful**
  - I Corinthians 15:1-2 – “... by which you are being saved, **if you hold fast** to the word I preached to you – unless you believed in vain.”