

Scripture Reading

Session 2

Let's Pray

Pray this prayer as you begin.

Lord, as I/we read and study the scriptures in this lesson, help me/us to grasp the beauty and power of Your written word. Help e/us to realize that the Bible is a guidebook for living a life of peace and hope. Thank You for giving me/us Your word in written form so that I/we can study and learn about You.

As we go through these scriptures choose one that really “speaks” to you and write it on a slip paper.

At the end of this session you can put this “scripture slip” in your wallet or purse and use it to help you remember what this “step” is in learning to walk with Christ.

Psalms 19:7; 119:11

Verse 7 Perfect instructions! Have you ever had those before? Isn't it nice to know that our perfect father also makes perfect instructions available to us?

Verse 11 tells us how to operate by these perfect instructions: we put these instructions into our guidance system.

Proverbs 30:5

Not only are God's words truth giving us perfect guidance but God serves as a shield for us.

John 15:7

Read this verse a couple of times. God CANNOT lie so this verse contains quite a promise!. If we keep ourselves in God (internalizing His word and living according to His perfect instructions) we can claim this promise. Can we do this perfectly? Of course not! But remember salvation is assured in spite of our shortcomings. God is not expecting perfection, just committed children.

Acts 20:32

We have joined with others who are set apart. Not set apart to never sin again but set apart for God's use and purpose with promise of an inheritance given us by God. While our ancestors may have left us an earthly inheritance it won't compare with the one God has set apart for us.

2 Timothy 2:15

We are supposed to be God's good workers who know and believe God's word and who store that word in our hearts.

Hebrews 4:12

Nothing is hidden from God because His word searches our souls and spirits and works to cut away anything that is not in keeping with God's word.

1 Peter 4:11

We cannot possibly speak or bear witness in any way for God if we do not know Him well. God reveals Himself best through His word. We must be well acquainted with His word in order to represent Him well

These two verses, one from the Old Testament and one from the New Testament summarize this lesson.

Psalm 119:105 and 2 Timothy 3:16

Psalms and Timothy both tell us that reading scripture is good for us to do

One thing we have to know and believe is that scripture guides us, teaches us, and corrects us. God's correction is not always pleasant but it is necessary.

The following are just some interesting facts about the Bible

The Old Testament contains 39 books

The New Testament contains 27 books

The shortest verse in the OT is 1 Chronicles 1:25

The shortest verse in the NT is John 11:35

Middle verse in Bible Psalm 103:1-2

Longest verse in Bible Esther 8:9

Because the Bible is the living word of God and is God's message to you so you can always ask "how does this scripture apply to my daily life?"

You can trust that the Bible stands as a unified whole so that we can do *thematic* studies of an idea throughout the scriptures like we are doing in this class.

One of your goals should be to learn the Books of the Bible in order. Open your Bible to the TOC and make a plan to do this. The web site for Windsor Spring Baptist Church has a link to a song for this purpose. Look under the RESOURCES section.

There are many reading plans designed to help you read the Bible through in a year's time. These are available on-line or there may be one in your Bible.

What is MOST IMPORTANT is not how fast you can read the Bible through but that you **read some portion of it each day.**

This should become a new habit that you form. As you grow you may want a more formal plan like one of those mentioned above.

The Bible helps defeat Satan. Next time you are tempted to sin just quote or read a verse of scripture and feel the Holy Spirit gain control.

As you read look for the following.

Is there a sin to confess?

Is there a promise to claim?

Is there an attitude to change?

Is there a command to obey?

Is there an example to follow?

Is there a prayer to pray?

Is there an error to avoid?

Is there a truth to believe?

Is there something to be thankful for?

Everything that we have examined in this session is summarized in the assurance that follows.

Assurance 2:

***I AM READING SCRIPTURE TO LEARN
HOW GOD WANTS ME TO LIVE!***

This concludes session 2

Let's pray.

Thank You for the Bible and my/our freedom to read it to know what You have to say to me/us and that it gives me/us instructions on how to live my/our life/lives in this sinful world.