

How to Study The Bible

Int.

1. Aim: To give some pointers on how to study the Bible.
2. 2 Tim. 2:15
3. Bible" simply means "book"
 - a. Composed of:
 - (1) 66 books (39 OT and 27 NT)
 - (2) 1,189 chapters
 - (3) 31,102 verses
 - (4) 773,746 words
 - (5) 3,566,480 letters
 - b. Written by approximately 40 different writers over about 1,600 years
4. 80,000 copies sold daily - 25 million annually
5. Here are some suggestions about how to study the Bible

Discussion

I. HONESTLY -

- A. The Bible must be studied honestly, that is without preconceived ideas.
- B. We must search for what it actually says, rather than what we think it says or what we want it to say.
- C. We should try and take a fresh look at every passage we read.

II. REVERENTLY -

- A. These writings are from God and should be treated as such: infallible and beneficial.
- B. They are the words of truth.
- C. II Tim. 3:16

III. DILIGENTLY -

- A. These words must be studied with intensity and continuity.
- B. We must devote ourselves to learning what the Bible teaches.
- C. This will involve time and effort on our part.

IV. SYSTEMATICALLY -

- A. Study involves much more than a daily reading (daily reading is important!).
- B. Have a plan to your reading
- C. One should work from broad outlines into fine detail when studying.
- D. Context is very important.

V. RESPONSIVELY -

- A. The Bible appeals to us to change our lives.
- B. We must study with the willingness to change when we find our lives and convictions to be in conflict with the Word of God.

CONCLUSION

1. Reading the Bible and studying the Bible are two different things.
2. One can read the Bible a whole lifetime and still not become knowledgeable of its contents.
3. Study takes time, tools and tenacity.
 - a. You will have to set aside specific periods of time for study;
 - b. You need to acquire indispensable tools (a concordance, a word study book and a Bible dictionary);
 - c. you will need to pursue it with persistence, until you have a meaningful grasp of its contents.

Sermon by Arthur Pigman - Sunday Evening July 26, 2009
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