

HIGH SCHOOL CLASS

Principles of Effective Bible Study

Student Study Guide
and Workbook

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Importance of Bible Study

2 Timothy 2:15 “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

The scripture above summarizes why studying the bible is so important; so we can be a workman for the Lord and correctly understand the truth. When we study and “rightly divide” the truth, we will have nothing to be ashamed about, because we are doing what God expects us to do.

We live in a society today where there are more false religions than at any other point in history. There are literally thousands of religions around the world and they have all deviated from the original pattern of the New Testament in one way or another. When God sent his son Jesus into the world, it was to teach us his will. If we disregard his commands, we are guaranteed to be justly punished for rejecting him. Notice what Jesus said in John 12:48-50: “He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him--the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day. For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. And I know that His command is everlasting life. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak.”

DID YOU

KNOW?

The largest religions are:

Christianity 2.3 Billion

Islam 2.2 Billion

Hinduism 1 Billion

Understanding the Lord’s Words

There is only one way to properly understand the words that Jesus spoke and the words that were revealed through the Holy Spirit (John 14:26), and that is through a careful study of the bible. Even though we may have been baptized and are spiritually children of God, we can be lost if we do not put in the effort to understand God’s word. The Lord made this very point to the children of Israel in Hosea 4:6 when he said “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge...”

Jesus prayed to the father in John 17:21, "that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me." Jesus here was speaking of his followers being united in the truth because he knew it was critical to their success as Christians. Unity can only be achieved if everyone studies and understands by the same standard, which is the word of God. In fact, notice what God said about unity in Amos 3:3: “Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?”

Questions: Answer the following questions and provide passages in support of your answer:

1. What are some reasons why we must be knowledgeable about God’s word?

PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE BIBLE STUDY

2. In John 1:1, 14, what term did John use to describe Jesus? _____
3. Who “searched the scriptures daily” to see if the things they were taught were true? _____
4. What are some consequences individually and as members of a local church if we are not knowledgeable about God’s word?

5. What are some consequences individually and as members of a local church if we are knowledgeable about God’s word?

6. Read Hebrews 5:12-14 and list three reasons why spiritual growth is important.

7. In 1 Corinthians 1:10 we are told (NKJV): “Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.” Explain what Paul is pleading for them to do and why it is so important.

8. Read 2 Timothy 2:22-26 and list what we are to avoid, what we are to pursue and why.

9. What are some tools you can use along with the bible to enhance your study?

10. What are some precautions we should take when using manmade references (commentaries, dictionaries, etc.)?

11. Is it ok to use different translations when studying? What are the benefits or dangers in using different translations?

12. List two denominations and a false doctrine from each that can be proven wrong from the scriptures?

