

“How to Read Your Bible” *II Tim. 2:15*

Open:

- The Bible is a spiritual book and must be read while one is yielding to the Holy Spirit.
 - You cannot read the Bible with a carnal mind and get spiritual truths. You must ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you what God has for you. **John 16:13** *“Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.”*
 - The Bible is best understood when you OBEY it; but you cannot obey what you have not read.
 - **Prov. 2:1-5**
 - **Ps. 119:11** *“Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.”*
- The Bible is a living book that applies to all people, at all times, in all situations.
 - There will never be a time in your life when the Bible does not apply to you.
 - There will never be a situation in your life the Bible cannot help you with.
 - There will never be a time in your life when you will have learned all of the Bible.
- The Bible is an instructional book that teaches us how to live the most fulfilling life. **1 Peter 1:23-25a** *“Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. [24] For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: [25] But the word of the Lord endureth for ever...”*
 - God wants the best for His children, and because of that He gave us His Words so we would know what to do that would please Him.
 - Man cannot enjoy the physical life without living the Spiritual life that is laid out to us in God’s word.
- The Bible is a personal book. God wrote it for me, and He gave it to me so I could be blessed.
 - God gives us commandments that will keep us safe.
 - God gives us a job to do that will keep us blessed.
 - God gives us human examples so we could see the decisions others have made.

Tran: Do not get so wrapped up into learning facts about the Bible, that you miss the truths of the Bible.

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

- Study = A personal effort to gain knowledge. We must personally apply our minds to learn what God wants us to know.
- Approved = To fall into agreement with. We must live our lives searching how we can be in agreement with God (not man).
- Rightly Dividing = The best commentary on the Bible is the Bible. If you have a hard time understanding something keep reading, He will explain it.
 - In your hunger to learn about God be careful not to develop an appetite for man’s interpretation on what the Bible means.
- The word of truth = All truth is God’s truth. There is no truth outside the word of God. If it is not in the Bible, then it is of man and it should not be trusted.

I. Search for new things you did not know.

- A. Names of people God talks about. God tells us about these people for a reason.
 - 1. To show us God uses sinners.
 - 2. To show us people make mistakes.
 - 3. To show us that you can make the hard decision to obey God.
- B. Places that event took place. Often time the geographical location sheds light on the story.
 - 1. Mountainous region
 - 2. Desert
- C. Why the story turned out the way it did?
 - 1. Did they obey God?
 - 2. Did they disobey God?
 - 3. What will happen if I make the same decision?

II. Think about what God is saying to you.

- Stress the point that the Bible was written to me as an individual. God is wanting to teach me something important.
- A. Should I follow this person’s example of doing right or should I be warned not to do what that person did, so I am not punished.
- B. Who in the Bible was blessed because they were waiting for and listening to God when He spoke?
- C. How can this verse, story, or truth apply to my life?

III. Understand new words by asking someone what they mean.

- A. Use a dictionary to define a word you do not know the meaning of. – The Bible always defines what it means by using a previously stated truth.
- B. Ask someone who knows the Bible what the verse means. – Do not just go to google or listen to a podcast of someone who claims they are knowledgeable about the Bible.

IV. Daily search the scriptures.

- A. Learning the Bible is a daily thing.
- B. Learning the Bible is a life-long process.
- C. Learning the Bible takes patience, prayer, and persistence.

V. Yield yourself to all that God asks you to do.

- A. Many Christians stop learning from the Bible because they stop obeying the Bible.
- B. God is not going to tell you do something else if you have not obeyed the 1st thing, He told you to do.
- C. Read the Bible with the mindset of, “*If God says it I am going to do it.*”

Close:

- The Bible is the breath of life for the child of God. If you stop reading, you die.
- What you do with God’s Word will determine what God does with you.
- Do not stop reading the Bible because you don’t understand it, **S.T.U.D.Y.** the Holy Spirit will teach you what need to learn when you need to learn it.

II Tim. 2:15

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