

LESSON 6: BIBLE STUDY

DAY 36

1. What is the Bible?

{the bible}

THE BIBLE IS THE WORD OF GOD, ALSO KNOWN AS SCRIPTURE. IT IS DIVIDED INTO THE OLD TESTAMENT AND THE NEW TESTAMENT, WHICH ARE COMPRISED OF 66 BOOKS, AND WRITTEN BY 40 AUTHORS OVER APPROXIMATELY 1,500 YEARS.

2. While the word of God was written down by man, who is the actual author of all scripture? (2 Timothy 3:16)

P2P: The Greek word translated *inspired* in this verse actually means *breathed*. So all scripture is *God-breathed*. Have you stopped to consider that, even though it was recorded by man, the Bible was actually breathed by God?

3. How did men speak the word of God? (2 Peter 1:20-21)

P2P: This is how God *breathed* His Word through them. Since the Word is God-breathed, how important is it for us to listen to what He spoke?

4. How does the Bible describe the words that God speaks? (John 17:17; Hebrews 4:12; John 6:63)

P2P: The Bible is more than just a book of literature or a collection of stories; the Bible is indeed the very word of God. The Bible is the definition of truth. God's words are spirit, life and power.

How often are you going to God's word to receive spiritual truth, life and power? Are there other places you go looking for truth, life and power in your life?

5. What does the Bible reveal about the importance of listening to God's word? (Isaiah 66:1-2; Romans 10:17)

6. How vital is living by God's word as disciples of Jesus? (John 14:23-24)

7. How does God want us to live our life? (Deuteronomy 8:3; Matthew 4:4; Luke 4:4)

P2P: How would living by every word of God change your thoughts and actions?

PRAY

Praise God for the Bible and for preserving it for us today. Thank Him for showing you where to find truth, life and power in your life. Come before Him humbly and in awe of His word. Ask Him to increase your faith as you read the Bible.

DAY 37

8. How often should we be taking the time to study the Bible? (Acts 17:10-12)

9. What effect was studying God's word having on the believers in Berea?

10. By what means did the Bereans evaluate whether what they heard preached was true?

P2P: When you hear teaching, or even have thoughts of your own regarding God and His ways, do you search the scriptures to prove whether those teachings and ideas are consistent with the word of God? More importantly, do you use the word of God to *not only test* the veracity of teachings, *but also to form your ideas* about life and how to live it?

11. What should be our goal in reading and studying the word of God? (2 Timothy 2:15)

P2P: Have you made it a goal and practice in your life to be diligent in studying and living by God's word, to be a worker who *rightly divides the word of truth*? To rightly divide the word of truth requires reading it, knowing it and being led to understand it by the Holy Spirit. It also requires diligence to understand God's word.

12. With what approach does God teach us knowledge, and cause us to understand His message? (Isaiah 28:9-10)

P2P: The answer to God's will and teaching on any subject requires the understanding of His whole word and counsel. It is contained throughout the Bible, here a little, there a little, precept upon precept, line upon line. Why is it important for you to read and study the Bible?

PRAY Thank God for giving you time each day to study His word. And thank Him for being so patient with you as you learn about Him and His ways. Ask God to bless you with greater wisdom and understanding so your study of the Bible will be increasingly profitable.

DAY 38

13. Why did God give us the scriptures? (2 Timothy 3:14-15)

P2P: How do the scriptures make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus? How do you see this happening in your life?

14. Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17

a. In what ways are the scriptures profitable for us?

b. Define the following terms based on the Greek word(s) from which they are translated:

doctrine –

reproof –

correction –

instruction in righteousness –

c. Ultimately, what is the goal of doctrine, reproof, correction and instruction in righteousness?

P2P: In what ways are you receiving the doctrine, reproof, correction and instruction in righteousness from God's word? Do you hear God's voice teaching you His doctrine, giving you reproof and correction and providing instruction about how to live righteously?

15. How does the Bible accomplish its work in us? (Psalm 119:105)

MEDITATE Are you allowing God's word to guide your path, to show you the way to go? Or are you still trying to figure out your path on your own, apart from God's counsel? Are you truly submitting to God's word as the light of your path? Are your deepest beliefs consistent with God's?

PRAY Give God praise for His doctrine, reproof, correction and instruction in righteousness. Realize that so many people are suffering because they don't have access to or don't know about the blessings from God's word. Thank Him for guiding your path of life with light so you can see where you are going.

DAY 39

16. What will the word of God produce in us if we believe it and live by it? (Psalm 119:11; Psalm 119:133)

P2P: Have you thought about how God's word can keep you from sin and error in your life? You don't have to make mistakes in life through trial and error. God's word can guide you into wisdom through belief, rather than having to experience a life of "hard knocks".

17. How were the believers in Thessalonica commended? (1 Thessalonians 2:13)

18. What effect does God's Word have on us? (1 Peter 1:22-25)

P2P: We are born into new creations of God by His word. The Bible reveals His perfect plan in creating us and reveals His perfect will. We are born again by His will (John 1:12-13). The word of God can work in you to create new things in you, just like the world itself was formed by God's word (Hebrews 11:1-3; Genesis 1).

19. How does the believer grow? (1 Peter 2:1-3)

P2P: Are you seeking God through His word, are you desiring to be reborn and to grow by God's word? How dependent are you on the Bible? How is His word transforming you day by day?

20. In what ways will the word of God transform your life?

a. God's word sets you free.

John 8:31-32

b. God's word saves your soul.

James 1:21

c. God's word makes you clean.

John 15:3

Ephesians 5:26

d. God's word sanctifies you.

John 17:17

MEDITATE Meditate on how this is happening in your life.

PRAY Thank God for the protection from sin because of His word. Praise the Lord for transforming you and making you a new creation so you can serve Him in the Spirit. Acknowledge the blessing of growing in maturity as you read the Bible and plant His word in your life.

DAY 40

21. To what is the word of God likened? (Ephesians 6:17)

22. In what ways is the word of God like a sword in your life? (Hebrews 4:12)

P2P: God's word is sharper than any two-edged sword that pierces into our very beings to reveal who we are. The word of God convicts us of sin and righteousness, and through it, we come to know the truth about ourselves and the truth of God. How are you allowing God's word to pierce you and change you?

23. How did Jesus use the word of God like a sword? What was the difference between Jesus' and the devil's use of the word of God? (Luke 4:1-13)

MEDITATE

Jesus provides an outstanding illustration of how to use the word of God as the sword of the Spirit to defend ourselves against temptation. It is critical for us to realize that what preceded this encounter with the devil was Jesus being filled with and led by the Holy Spirit. As you contemplate using the Bible as a sword in your life, you must be filled with the Holy Spirit to be effective.

PRAY

Praise God for equipping you with the sword of the Bible to defend yourself from attack. Thank God for probing your innermost thoughts and beliefs so He can make you more in His image. Give Jesus glory for His example of resisting the devil by the word of God. Ask God for a purity of mind to always use Scripture in truth and love when talking with others.

DAY 41

24. How does God use believers to help us in coming to understand His word? (Acts 8:26-40; Ephesians 4:11-16)

25. How does God directly help us understand His word? (John 14:26; 1 John 2:20-27; 1 Corinthians 2:7-16; 2 Corinthians 3:12-18)

26. What do we need to do to see the truth of God's word? (2 Corinthians 3:14-16)

27. To whom is all Scripture leading us? (John 5:37-40; Ephesians 4:13)

PRAY

Thank God for the gifts He has given you and the relationships in your life which deepen your spiritual understanding. Praise and glorify God for the work of the Holy Spirit. Bless Him for removing the veil from your eyes so you can see clearly.

DAY 42

MEDITATE & PRAY

Spend time further reflecting upon and praying about the parts of Lesson 6 that really inspired you. Thank God once again for giving you His word and contemplate how truly vital God's word is to help make you complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.