

How to Study the Bible

Building Effective Study Habits and Techniques

The Bible is the most important book on earth because it is the written word of God. Studying the Bible will not only increase our knowledge of the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, but it will also help us to grow spiritually and be even more effective members of the body of Christ.

So why is it that some people, including Christians, fail to study the Bible with any real purpose or plan?

To some people the Bible is not relevant. They feel that the Bible does not apply to them in this present day and age. Others honestly do not know how to study the Bible. While this can be a legitimate reason, we are not to be content with not knowing how to study. We should actively seek to know how to study the Bible.

Then there is the excuse of not having enough time. This really means that not enough time has been devoted to study. The real question is, "Is Bible study a priority for me?" not "Do I have enough time?"

Some may feel that Bible study is not exciting. No one likes to study genealogies. Guess what? The Bible is more than a list of genealogies and hard-to-pronounce names. Scripture can be dull without context. However, the more you know, the more exciting and engaging your study will be.

There are reasons why we should study the Bible. Bible study is essential to growth (1 Peter 2:1-2), maturity (Hebrews 5:11-14), and effectiveness (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Most believers will admit that knowing God's Word is important. The problem arises when we acknowledge the central place God's Word should have in our lives but do not change our lifestyle to reflect that fact. The Bible was not merely written for our information, but for our transformation "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind..." (Romans 12:2).