

Living Connections Bible Study

Get into God's Word



Prayer

Icebreaker: How many of you like gardening? List some key components to getting your seed to grow and your garden to produce a generous harvest.



Read: Luke 8:4-8, 11-15

1. In reading this parable, what was the most important thing that determined the ability of the seed to grow and produce a harvest?

In this series we want to help you develop some spiritual disciplines or habits that will help you to mature as a disciple of Jesus Christ. The first is getting into God's Word.

HEAR GOD'S WORD

2. What is the key to a strong faith? Romans 10:17

3. List as many ways as you can of how we can hear God's Word.

4. Read Acts 17:11 and describe the attitude of the Bereans that enabled them to get more from God's Word when it was being taught to them by Paul and his missionary team.

5. Eight times in the gospels we find Jesus words; *He who has ears to hear, let him hear!* That means we need to eagerly tune our hearts and ears to hear from God. What attitude toward God will hinder us from hearing from Him? Ezekiel 12:2

6. James 1:22-25 teaches that it is not enough to come to church to hear God's Word. What must we be ready and eager to do when we have received God's instructions?

READ GOD'S WORD

7. What important instruction does Paul give to Timothy in 1 Timothy 4:13?

8. What is God's promise to those who read, hear, and obey His Word? Revelation 1:3

9. How often should we read God's Word? Deuteronomy 17:19; Job 23:12

10. Do you have a regular time to read God's Word each day? When and where is it?

11. Why can't unbelievers understand the Bible when they read it?

1 Corinthians 2:14, John 14:26

STUDY GOD'S WORD

12. 2 Timothy 2:15, in the King James, version reads, *Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.* Discuss what it means to rightly divide the word of truth? Isaiah 28:9-10

A Bible dispensation is a period of time in which God worked in different ways with regard to mankind. There is the age of innocence before the *fall of man*. Then there is that age of conscience after Adam's sin leading up to the giving of the Law in Exodus 20. Then there is the age of law, especially with regard to Israel. Then beginning with Christ and the gospels there is a transitional period leading to the church age (beginning at Pentecost) in which we are now living. Following the Church age is coming a time of Great Tribulation, and then the Millennial reign of Christ for a thousand years.

13. What good example did the Bereans leave us in regard to checking out what they were being taught? Acts 17:11

14. If the Bereans were commended for checking out the apostle Paul’s teaching shouldn’t we be searching the Scriptures to make sure our spiritual leaders and teachers are instructing us correctly?

There are three basic keys to good Bible study

🔑 The first key, called _____, involves observing the text by asking the questions – *What is happening?* And, *What is being said in its historical context?*

🔑 The second key, called _____, involves interpreting the message or meaning of the text by asking – *What does it mean?*

🔑 The third key, called _____, involves applying the message of the passage to your life, by asking – *How does this apply to me?*

15. List as many Bible study tools as you can think of that would be helpful in studying your Bible.

MEMORIZE GOD'S WORD

16. List five benefits we receive from hiding God's Word in our hearts:

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| 📖 | It will help you resist _____ | Psalm 119:11 |
| 📖 | It will help you make wise _____ | Psalm 119:105 |
| 📖 | It will strengthen you and give you _____ | Psalm 119:165 |
| 📖 | It will comfort you when you are _____ | Jeremiah 15:16 |
| 📖 | It will help you _____ our faith | 1 Peter 3:15 |

Think About This Week:

2 Timothy 3:16–17 says, *All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

Expect all Scripture to show me something that I need to **know**, **stop**, **change**, or **do**.

- 📖 *for doctrine* – what I need to **know** about God, myself and others
- 📖 *for reproof* – what I need to **stop** believing or doing
- 📖 *for correction* – what I need **change** in my thoughts, attitudes, or actions
- 📖 *for instruction in righteousness* – what I need to **do** in obedience to God's Word

In Psalm 119:72 David said, *The law of Your mouth is better to me than thousands of coins of gold and silver.* In Job 23:12, Job said he considered God's words more important than his daily food. How important is God's Word to you?