

Study Guide for lesson on the Bible lesson #1 - for teachers to lead class discussion or for individual study

Study Guide #1 – Sunday March 8th

Growing in Greater Intimacy with Jesus – Spring 2020

How to Build my life on God's Word - "Trust the Bubbles"

James 1:19-25/Joshua 1:7-9/ 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Growing in Greater Intimacy with Jesus:

- I **believe** the Bible is true and authoritative for my life. Do you believe it?
- I study it (**behave**) to know Him. Do you study to know Him??
- As I spend time knowing God's Word, God brings his transformation in me to **become** more and more like Jesus. See Romans 12:1-2 – Verse for memorizing

Authority of The Bible – What do I believe about the bible? = Believing

1. In WHAT R U TRUSTING to live your life? - Jer 4:3-4/ James 4:4-10/ Hos 10:12

ILL: Bubbles always rise to the surface; you can always trust the bubbles!

What do you believe about the Bible? IS it your lifeline? Your life source? If it is just an instructional manual you will seldom ever open it!!

***Discuss:** Is it your "savior" – your lifeline? Is it your source of oxygen in 100 feet of water your will hold on to it with a passion! Or do you reach for something else first?

R U Disturbed? Jeremiah 4:3-4/ James 4:4-10

When was the last time God disturbed you? The last time you allowed Him to do something that did not accommodate your planned-out, prearranged schedule?

"The Word of God will either harden you or soften you depending on whether you allow the plow of conviction to break your heart!"

Michael Catt

***Prayer:** Hosea 10:12 – Dear Lord, "Break up the fallow ground in my heart"! God's Word will do this!

Study the bible – cultivate a firsthand faith = Behaving

2. WHAT'S it for? (v. 16b) What is its work?? Revealing Jesus!

***Discuss:** Why did God give us His Word? Why do we have the bible? So many it seems, study to know it, rather than know Him. The Bible is giving to show us/reveal Jesus...

It is for:

1. Teaching – knowledge – instruction – give directions and to point the way
"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet a light unto my path" Ps 119:105
 - Points the way... a map to follow; to guide us
2. Rebuking – conviction – Lit. "put to shame" – leading us to be convinced of the truth; puts to shame; breaks down and points out all that is bad. "Reproof" – to point out error. Points to truth...
3. Correcting – restores to a right state; improves life and character; makes life straight again; a straightening up again,
 - Puts life back together again; restores
4. Training – way you should walk; by example; chasten; discipline
 - Draws the boundaries; disciplines; Keeps us walking straight!

Training translates *paideia*, which had the original meaning of bringing up and training a child (paidion),

- The Bible is given not to beat us down but build us up!!

"...so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it." Isa 55:11 NIV

God's word will accomplish God's purpose. AND God has purposed to equip us for life and ministry...

The Whole Truth about God's Word

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Becoming

3. WHAT is TRUE about the Bible? (2 Timothy 3:14-17)

- God's Word is Truth!

Paul's Challenge to understand the value of God's Word

a. Leads to salvation – scripture brings life! *"wise unto salvation" –v. 15*

b. All scripture inspired of God is... – accurate and without error

Lit: *"All scripture is inspired by God...(God breathed)"*

***Discuss:** What is the excellency of the scripture?

It is given by inspiration of God (v. 16), and therefore it is HIS WORD! It is a divine revelation, which we may depend upon as infallibly true. (2 Peter 1:21) Discuss: Do you believe this?

c. All is profitable – speaks of sufficiency of Scripture – (sufficient for every need)

Note the Warning about false teachers ... 2 Tim 3:10-17

The TRUTH about the Bible IS that: (2 Pet 3:15-16; 2 Tim 3:16-17)

1. All of it is God's Word.
2. Its instruction is alive and profitable. (Hebrews 4:12) It is living and active.
3. It is comprehensive.
4. It completely equips us for both life and ministry.

***Discuss:** Do we sometimes take God's Word for granted.

The Truth: It is God's Word! It is able to make us wise unto salvation! It is immeasurably profitable. It comes to us with great cost! Many gave their lives so we might have God's Word!

***Discuss:** Do you receive the Word with Joy and blessing!!

"Let the Word dwell in you richly..." (Col 3:16) – Suggested memory verse

Because I believe it is true:

4. I make my commitments TO IT! (Ephesians 4:14-15; 20-25 – *becoming...*)

SO "Your Word I have hid in my heart so that I might not sin against you." Ps 119:11

So, "I put off the old self... and I put on the new self." Ephesians 4:23-24

***Discuss:** How committed am I to knowing God's word and applying its truth to my life?

Note three COMMITMENTS TO GOD'S WORD TO MAKE TODAY!:

1. Even when I don't understand it, I'll trust it.

Example of Naaman. If you want healing, Go Dip in the water 7 times.

2. Although it does not make rational sense, I'll obey it.

Remember Mary? In John 2, at the wedding in Cana of Galilee? They run out of wine, and Mary looks at the servants, and says, "Whatever he says to you, do it."

3. While human opinions vary, I'll believe IT! God's Word is always right.

While human opinions vary, while others will have all sorts of answers, God's Word is right.

- *Just like the Bubbles, "You can ALWAYS trust God's Word..." ☺*

"And the Word of the Lord stands forever, And this is THE WORD that was preached to you!" 1 Peter 1:22-25