

## **The Benefits of Bible Study**

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Gus Nichols (1892-1975), minister of the Lord's church in Jasper, AL, preached in a gospel meeting in Munford, AL, in 1937. During the meeting, he stated that he had studied the Bible five hours a day for twenty years. Franklin Camp (1915-1991), a young fellow, heard that statement. He decided that if a man of Gus Nichols' ability needed to study the Bible five hours a day, he needed to study it even more. He started then to spend at least six hours a day in Bible study. He would go to his study at four-thirty or five o'clock in the morning because he had learned that early morning is the best time for meditation. He believed that his greatest responsibility was to study God's word to be able to teach it to others. Think of the examples of Gus Nichols and Franklin Camp and admire them for devoting all those hours to Bible study, and the subsequent knowledge they gained for themselves and for teaching others.

If we believe the Bible is the word of God and the only guide for our lives in spiritual matters, how devoted to reading and studying it are we? The Bible is not just for preachers, it is for all people. Let us give ample time to its precious and powerful message and live by it.

“To you, O men, I call, and my cry is to the children of man. O simple ones, learn prudence; O fools, learn sense. Hear, for I will speak noble things, and from my lips will come what is right, for my mouth will utter truth; wickedness is an abomination to my lips. All the words of my mouth are righteous; there is nothing twisted or crooked in them. They are all straight to him who understands, and right to those who find knowledge.” (Proverbs 8:4-9).

There is a fountain of wisdom open to us in Bible study. Let us remember this when we sing, “There’s a fountain free; 'tis for you and me; let us haste oh haste to it’s brink”.