

September 16, 2018

“Growing 101”

“Introduction to Foundational Principles”

“Reading a New Guidebook”

“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip His people to do every good work.” 2 Timothy 3:16-17

A. A new life brings a new Guide for life...

“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip His people to do every good work.”

2 Timothy 3:16-17

1. This new Guide is inspired by God.

“All Scripture is inspired by God...”

2. This new Guide will teach us truth.

“...and is useful to teach us what is true...”

3. This new Guide will help us to see what is wrong in our lives.

“...and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives.”

4. This new Guide will direct us to new pathways in our lives.

“It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.”

5. This new Guide prepares us for new life and gives us all we need to live this new life.

“God uses it to prepare and equip His people to do every good work.”

B. This new Guidebook is fully equipped to direct our lives...

“For the Word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.” Hebrews 4:12

1. The new Guidebook is alive! It is God speaking!

“For the Word of God is alive...”

2. The new Guidebook is sharp enough to cut deep.

“It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow.”

3. The new Guidebook can show us the difference between our thoughts and motives of our selves.

“It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.”

4. This new Guidebook will be that source of spiritual growth and development.

“For the Word of God is alive and powerful.”

C. This new Guidebook will take work...

“Work hard so you can present yourself to God and receive His approval. Be a good worker, one who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly explains the word of truth. Avoid worthless, foolish talk that only leads to more godless behavior. This kind of talk spreads like cancer, as in the case of Hymenaeus and Philetus. They have left the path of truth, claiming that the resurrection of the dead has already occurred; in this way, they have turned some people away from the faith.” 2 Timothy 2:15-18

1. Invest yourself in the study of the Word.

“Work hard...”

2. You are accountable to God.

“...so you can present yourself to God and receive His approval.”

3. Be fully aware of the Truth and how to use it in your life.

“Be a good worker, one who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly explains the word of truth.”

4. Be cautious as to how you use the Truth and how your influence affects others.

“Avoid worthless, foolish talk that only leads to more godless behavior...They have left the path of truth...”

D. How will you choose to use your Guidebook... will you work hard, be a good worker, and correctly use it?

1. Begin by making a commitment to find time every day to read God’s Word!

“People do not live by bread alone; rather, we live by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.” Deuteronomy 8:3

2. Apply the Word to your life by being obedient to what you read!

“But don’t just listen to God’s word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves.” James 1:22

3. Check your mirror before you go out...it will show you your true self.

“For if you listen to the word and don’t obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don’t forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.” James 1:23-25

4. When God speaks Truth, apply it to your life!

“Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.” James 4:17

5. The Word will be your Guide daily!

“Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path.” Psalm 119:105

September 23:

“A New Way to Talk”

“You haven’t done this before. Ask, using my name, and you will receive, and you will have abundant joy.” John 16:24

**A NEW GUIDEBOOK:
HOW TO UNDERSTAND THE BIBLE**

Traveling alone in unfamiliar territory without a map is an uncertain way to go. Being a Christian changes all that. Christ becomes the guide with the Bible as the Guidebook. Jesus taught that the Word of God is our spiritual food, just like bread is our physical food.

Matthew 4:4

WHY SHOULD A CHRISTIAN STUDY THE BIBLE EVERYDAY?

COMPARE THE OLD LIFE WITH THE NEW LIFE:

The Old Life:

1. No direction
2. Wrong reading materials
- 3.
- 4.

The New Life:

1. New Pathway
2. Bible and good books
- 3.
- 4.

“God’s Word must be taken in daily portions. There is no such thing as ‘instant growth’ by reading the Bible in one setting and ignoring it for days. God is committed to the process as well as the product.”
- John Maxwell

God has given us the Bible so that we might discover His love and learn to enjoy His presence. As a new Christian, you will begin reading the Bible regularly.

Our purpose for living as Christians is primarily twofold:

1. To know God.
2. To make Him known.

In this lesson, we will learn what the Bible is, how to study the Bible, and how to know God better.

The Bible is the key to knowing God since He has revealed who He is by means of the Scripture. The Bible is the world’s most valuable treasure and the reading of it is a person’s most profitable exercise.

I. WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

1. It is a total of _____ different books written by 40 different authors over a period of 1,500 years.
2. In our memory verse, we learn that all Scripture is _____ by God. Discuss what that means.

a) Matthew 4:4 tells us that the Word comes from _____

b) Matthew 5:18 says that the Scripture will last until _____

c) II Peter 1:20,21 teaches that the Scripture did not come from _____ but from _____.

3. What does John 17:17 say the Word of God is?

II. WHY SHOULD WE STUDY THE BIBLE?

1. 1 Corinthians 2:12,13 tells us that we should study Scripture to understand _____

2. Romans 15:4 says that the Bible was written to _____ so we might have _____

3. Luke 24:27, 44, 45 shows us that we study the Word of God to find out about _____

III. HOW WILL THE STUDY OF SCRIPTURE HELP ME?

1. It is through Bible study that we grow in Christ and become victorious.

a) What are we to use when fighting the devil’s scheme’s?
Ephesians 6:17

b) How does Scripture memorization help us according to Psalm 119:11?

c) In John 14:23, Jesus teaches us that our desire to know God’s Word is based on our _____ for Him.

2. Use the information below to discover more about the Bible and what it does in our lives.

STUDY: PSALM 19:7-11 and fill in the after the verses.

Verse	What the Bible is called	Its Characteristics	What will it do for me
7a	Law	Perfect	Renews
7b	Statutes		
8a			
8b		Valuable	Sweetens Life
9a			
9b			
10	Gold & Honey		
11	A WARNING: By my OBEDIENCE I will receive a great reward		

3. What are the results of meditating on the Word according to Psalm 1 _____.

CHALLENGE: Follow the Berean’s Example

Acts 17:10, 11

1. They read with an open mind.
2. They examine the Scriptures.
3. They research daily.
 - a) Joshua 1:8
 - b) Job 23:12
 - c) Psalm 119:97
 - d) Jeremiah 15:16

QUESTION: What truth from God’s Word has especially helped you recently?

APPLICATION: Establish a T.A.W.G. – Time Alone With God

1. Choose a time and be consistent
2. Choose a place that is quiet and secluded
3. Have a plan
 - a) Begin with prayer
 - b) Mark your Bible
 - c) Choose a favorite verse each day and mark “FV”
 - d) Pray for yourself and others using that verse

FOR FURTHER STUDY:

1. What is said about the Word of God in John 17:17?

2. What does the study of the Scripture offer us? Romans 15:4

3. How did Jesus resist the devil in Matthew 4:4, 7, 10?

4. If one belongs to God, what does he do about God’s Word? John 8:47

5. What will God’s Word do for us according to:

a) 2 Timothy 3:15

b) John 15:3

c) Acts 20:32

6. According to 1 Corinthians 8:1, what happens when we have knowledge without love?

7. List the things from 2 Timothy 3:14-17 that the Word of God is profitable for:

CONCLUSION: Here are some keys to follow in your reading and study of God's Word.

1. Realize that God is sending us His love through letters of instruction, encouragement and consolation.
2. Read the Bible over and over again.
3. In your special time and in your spare time, meditate on the Word of God.
4. Compare Scripture with Scripture.
5. Pray and study when you do not understand it.