

Bible Study part 1

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: John 8:31-32, Matthew 22.

B. One of the characteristics of a disciple is that he is in the Word and knows the Scripture.

C. Three stages in attitudes toward Bible study.

1. You do not like it, but you know it is good for you.

2. It is dry but nourishing.

3. It gets to be a lot of fun.

II. Five general principles of Bible Study.

A. Know how to ask the right kind of questions.

B. You have not really thought about it until you have put it on paper.

C. The ultimate goal of Bible study is application, not just interpretation.

D. Do not try to find the mystical truth no one has ever seen. God's Word deserves to be studied systematically.

1. Observation.

2. Interpretation.

3. Correlation.

4. Draw conclusions.

E. One cannot exhaust all the truths in any passage.

III. Methods of Bible study.

A. The devotional method.

1. This method is summarized in meditation, application and memorization.

2. Meditation is rumination—it is thought digestion.

3. It is not mystical—it is just seriously thinking over Scripture.

a. Imagine the picture.

b. Paraphrase the Scripture.

c. Pronounce a Bible verse.

d. Personalize it.

e. Probe it.

1) Is there a sin to confess?

2) Is there a promise to claim?

3) Is there an attitude to change?

4) Is there a command to obey?

5) Is there an example to follow?

6) Is there a prayer to pray?

7) Is there an error to avoid?

8) Is there a truth to believe?

9) Is there something for which to praise God?

f. Apply it. Write down a project that will help you apply the lesson, which ought to be personal, practical, possible and provable.

Application questions:

1. Which general principle of Bible study did you find most helpful? Explain.

2. Why is the devotional method a good method to start with in order to teach others Bible study?

3. What does it mean to study the Bible systematically?
