

Synthetic Bible Study – Part 1

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I. Introduction.

- A. Multiplied experience does not mean with progress.
- B. Experience is essential in the Christian life, but it is not the essence.
- C. God is not impressed by how much you know, but rather by obedience.

1. To what extent are you responding to what God has revealed to you?

II. Dusty Bibles always lead to dirty lives.

- A. Either you are being conformed by Jesus through His word or by the world.
- B. Many people drive far to be under the word, but it is no substitute for getting into the Word itself.
- C. The Bible is the most sold book, but the also the most neglected book.
- D. Why to people not get into the Word for themselves?

- 1. Busyness.
- 2. Fear of convictions.
- 3. Fear of its powers.
- 4. Fear of its demands.
- 5. Independence.
- 6. The Word as nonessential.
- 7. Being fed by other people.
- 8. Relevance.
- 9. It is “boring.”

E. The question “why” must always be answered before the “how” is answered.

- 1. People are being lost in the Scriptures.
- 2. People do not stay in groups because they do not know why they are doing it.

III. Objectives.

A. Improving your intake in the Word.

1. Why study the Bible? Four passages.

a. 1 Peter 2:2 - develop an appetite for the spiritual milk of the Word.

1) There must be a proper attitude toward the Word.

a) Grab for the book like the baby grabs for the milk.

b) Develop a desire that is hungry minute by minute.

2) Develop an appetite.

a) One of the greatest risks in being an older Christian is that you can lose this longing for the Word.

b) Three types of Bible students:

i. The oiler type.

ii. The shredded wheat type.

iii. The strawberries and cream type.

3) The aim of the Word of God:

a) “in order that you may grow”, not just know.

b) You need knowledge, but it is possible to grow and not know.

c) The Bible was not written to satisfy your curiosity, it was written to transform.

d) There is no other means of growth apart from the Word of God.

b. Hebrews 5:11-14.

1) The difficulty is in the reception not in the revelation.

2) The passing of time is key to the interpretation of this passage.

3) When you should be teaching others, you are in need of teaching.

4) We talk about a new convert as a babe in Christ, but this is erroneous - from the authors point of view these “babes” should have been mature. ‘Babe’ refers to one’s receptivity of the Word.

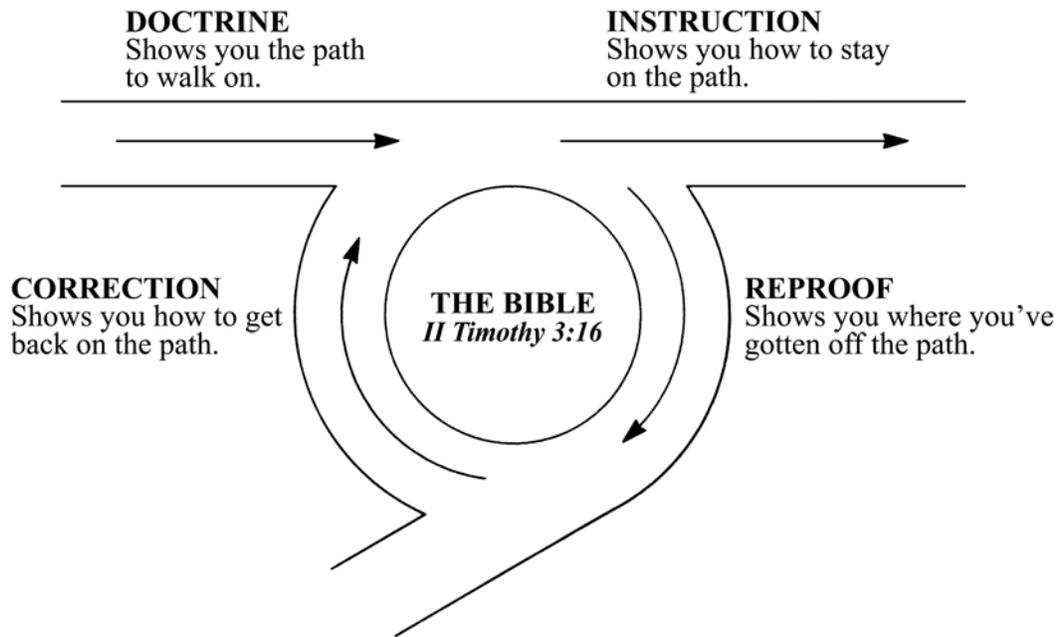
5) Substantial food is for full grown men.

i. A mature man is not someone who simply understands the Scriptures - he is a man that uses it.

ii. The word of God alone will develop spiritual maturity.

c. 2 Timothy 3:13-17.

1) The Word of God has a pediatric purpose.



2) All scripture is profitable for:

i. Teaching - structuring your thinking.

ii. Reproof - to show you where you are out of line.

iii. Correction - to bring you back in line.

iv. Instruction - structuring your living.

3) Purpose: in order that the man of God may be mature.

d. 2 Timothy 2:14.

1) The Word of God is the only means by which we might become unashamed workers.

2) Be careful on how you build on the foundation - using permanent instead of perishable material.

3) Every time you are off track, you are likely off track in the book.

B. Helping you help someone else.

Application questions:

1. Summed up, what are the four main reasons that a believer should be regularly in the Word of God?

2. What are your top two excuses for not maintaining regular Bible study habits? Do they stand up to the test? What can you do to make personal Bible study a regular part of your life?

3. Set some goals for maintaining a regular Bible study. Share those goals with a friend. How can you challenge each other to be in the Word?
