

PART 1

- 2 verses

“Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down *for our instruction*, on whom the end of the ages has come” ([1 Corinthians 10:11](#)).

“Whatever was written in former days was written *for our instruction*, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope” ([Romans 15:4](#)).

Bible Overview

- Bible is 66 books telling one story: the story of Jesus - in fact if you look carefully, you can trace all scripture, even OT to Jesus- the shadow is there
 - OT 39 books / NT 27 books
 - Made up of different parts: History - Poetry - Wisdom - Prophetic / NT is the gospels, letters, general letters and Apocalyptic
- The bible was written by human authors under the direction and guidance of the Holy Spirit
 - 2 Timothy 3:14-17...”But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work”
 - Couple of things we learn here:
 - 1- Don't give up your pursuit of studying and learning how to study the scriptures
 - Some of you are here cause you want to go deeper and others of you are here bc you want to learn how to even start
 - Don't give up- they'll be days it'll be hard - days it's hard to understand - days you dont want to

- Why? Bc it's useful for teaching/learning-reproof-correction- equipping you and for your journey in sanctification
- 2- Bc it is breathed out by God, it's is 1000% trustworthy- you can trust what this says that it will not lead you in the wrong direction

Courses on our website for further study

Discussion:

Turn to someone by you that is not your spouse and answer this question: What is your relationship with the bible? (Example- love/hate relationship with it growing up)

PART 2

How do I study the bible for 1) understanding and 2) application?

Start with a plan

If you want to get familiar with the bible, you have to have a plan to read it

- If you fail to plan you what? _____ plan to fail
- Devotionals are good but I want to encourage you to do more of a comprehensive reading
 - Having a plan 1) Keeps you on track 2) keeps you focused 3) gives you a goal 4) when done with someone else keeps you accountable
 - Part of having a plan is having the right tools
 - 1- Read a bible translation you can understand
 - I prefer the ESV CSB NIV or even the NLT - But if you're more comfortable with KJV or NKJV or whatever, start there
 - 2- Have a study bible handy / ESV study bible - ESV Systematic Theology study bible - ESV Inductive study bible - Disciples CSB study bible - CSB Spurgeon Study Bible ** - CSB Apologetics study bible - Thompson-Chain Reference bible
 - Apps- Faithlife, Blue Letter Bible, Bible Memory App, Bible Gateway, Olive Tree Bible, Thompson-Chain Reference Bible)
- Reading Plans

- F260, Bible in a Year, M'Cheyne, Meet The bible
- Another way to do this is to pick whole books of the bible
 - Use devotionals as supplements - it's the side dish and not the main course
 - Why? Bc it's important for you to grab the fork and knife and dive in to let the HS speak to you and for you to do the work of how it applies to you right now

So what do you do as you read?

- 1- Don't feel like you have to knock out an entire book or even an entire chapter. It's ok to take it slow
 - Remember you are reading for understanding and application / No medals in heaven for knocking out a bunch of bible you don't understand
- 2- Journal and pray
 - HEAR (Highlight-Explain-Apply-Respond)
 - Tips: Keep it simple / catch up if you miss / Take God seriously / Apply it / Stay with it / ****Discuss it with others****
 - **3 questions you ask each other: 1- How did God speak to you 2- What are you going to do about it 3- How can I pray for you**

Discussion:

What helps you study and apply the bible for yourself?

PART 3

Other resources:

- Youversion - Gospel Transformation Bible - Right Now Media - Logos Bible - Wordsearch 12