

Elijah Project School of Ministry

Maurice Davis

Module 1

How to Study the Bible?

Why Study the Bible?

Jesus reigns over the church through the authority of the word of God.

### **1. Scripture reveals to us Gods Character**

**2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NKJV)** *“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”*

- **Theo** (means God), **Ology** (means Study) **Theology** – **the study of God.**
- Studying scripture is one of the most spiritual things you can do.
- John 6:63 - *“It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.”*
- All scripture is inspired by the Holy Spirit, and if interpreted correctly can give us a better depiction of God’s Nature.
- Loving God involves taking time to study who he is and what he has done.

### **2. We are responsible for what we know Personally about God.**

**Acts 17:11 (NKJV)** *“Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.”*

- God is going to hold you personally accountable for what you believe about his word.
- The Bereans didn’t just believe Paul just because he preached, they examined the scriptures every day to understand the message for themselves.
- We shouldn’t blindly believe anything our Spiritual leaders tell us.

### **3. Our minds are meant to be thoughtful about God and who he is.**

**Matthew 22:37(NKJV)** <sup>37</sup> And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

- Understanding and intellect was given for the purpose of God.
  - Studying Scripture is worship to God.
  - Biblical Love is always thoughtful.
4. **We should all be able to explain God word to some capacity.**

**2 Timothy 2:15 (NKJV)** Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

- **Be diligent** – Study, To make Hasten
- Studying Scripture is one of the ways you show God you are serious about him and his word.
- **rightly dividing the word of truth** – to cut straight, to teach the truth directly and correctly.
- If Paul urged timothy to rightly divide the word of truth that means you can wrongly divide it. We must, through the understanding of the Holy Spirit, be able to explain verses and portions of scripture with accuracy and precision.
- This is an important point: The Bible does not mean just what anyone wants it to mean. There may be many people trying to twist the Scriptures to their own ends, but they are wrongly **dividing the word of truth**. We can’t just pick the interpretation that seems most comfortable to us and claim it as true – it must be **rightly dividing the word of truth**, and it must be consistent with what the Bible says in the specific passage and with the entire message of the Scriptures.

5. **Deception will mark the last days and false teachings.**

**1 Timothy 4:1 (NKJV)** Now the Spirit <sup>[a]</sup>expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,

**Doctrines of demons:** Doctrines refers to teachings; People will fall astray listening to deceptive teaching literally inspired from demons.

- We must be able to discern what is 99% truth from what Truth is.
- Studying God words will protect us from Deception.

What to study about in Scripture?

Context:

- **literal meaning** (what it says),
- **historical setting** (the events of the story, to whom it is addressed, and how it was understood at that time),
- **grammar** (the immediate sentence and paragraph within which a word or phrase is found)
- **synthesis** (comparing it with other parts of Scripture for a fuller meaning, **Ex: John 8:32, John 14:6**)

**Verses out of context:** Leads to Misunderstanding, misapplication, false assumptions

- **1 Corinthians 13:34**(In the Corinthians Church women were asking questions and chattering during the message and was disturbing the service)
- **Ex: Matthew 7:1**(This verse speaks about judging people hypocritically or unrighteously)
- **Romans 8:28**(In context this verse applies to those who are actively seeking God's will),
- **Philippians 4:13**(Paul is talking about being able to have joy amid hard circumstances)

Original Language and Word studies:

- The Bible was written in Hebrew and Greek by over 40 men of diverse backgrounds over the course of 1500 years.
- All English versions of the Bible are translations not original texts.
- Sometimes to understand the words that authors used in the time period we must go back to the original language.
- This opens the Scripture and gives more context on words that may have lost meaning in translation.
- The Greeks had four words they used to express the word power in the Bible often the word many different words are translated as one but they have different meanings.
- **Κρατος** -God's dominion, God's authority, God's strength
- **Εχουσια** – delegated authority, or given privilege, permission
- **Δυναμις** – miraculous power, divine ability, Ex: Matthew 7:22 (wonderful works)

- **John 1:12(KJV)** But as many as received him, to them gave the power (**Εξουσια**) to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:
- **Ephesians 6:10 (KJV)** Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power (**Κρατος**) of his might.
- **Acts 1:8(KJV)** But ye shall receive power, (**Δυναμις**) after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Study Tools:

Different Translations:

**NASB (New American Standard) 2020** – Accurate Translation from original text.

**ESV (English Standard Version)** – Accurate Translation from original Text.

**NKJV (New King James Version)** – Good for Cross referencing and Reading

**AMP (Amplified)** – For Commentary and Explanation.

**NLT (New Living Translation)** – Simplified Version of reading.

Study Bible – is a type of bible designed to help readers understand and explore the scriptures in greater depths.

- **Introductions:** authorship, historical context, key themes, and major events.
- **Articles:** provide historical context, theological insights, and practical considerations.
- **Footnotes:** Notes at the bottom of pages that offer definitions, references to other parts of the Bible, and additional comments on specific verses.
- **Maps and Charts:** Visual aids that illustrate biblical geography, timelines, genealogies, and more to easily digest complex information.

**Blue Letter Bible: Free online resource for in depth Biblical study.**

- **Word by Word Translations, Greek and Hebrew, Commentaries**

**Enduring Word Commentaries**

Enduring Word is an online Bible commentary created by Pastor **David Guzik**. It provides **chapter-by-chapter** and **verse-by-verse explanations of the entire Bible, from Genesis to Revelation**