#### Lesson #6 STUDY THE WORD OF GOD

Bible study requires more **time** and **skill** than having a daily quiet time. We should study the Bible because God inspired it.

*2 Tim 3:16 16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, (NIV)*

Inspiration means God breathed. This means the special divine influence of the Holy Spirit in the lives of Holy men, which enabled them to make an infallible record of divine truth concerning the will of God to man.

The Bible was not written to be just a history book, but rather it was written to be **His** storybook. it’s the product of one master mind. There are **66** different books, about **40** different writers living in different places, during a period of sixteen hundred years, contributing his essential part to make one whole unit, each adding to and making clear but **never contradicting what the other wrote.**

We must remember that the Bible is assembly of different book and has undergone multiple translations. Most translations are very good making the Bible readable to those who do not understand Hebrew, Chaldean, Greek, or Latin. There are other books that can be used to give us a broader understanding of the Scriptures. Other writings that can be associated with the Bible include:

* The Talmud - The Talmud has been the central pillar supporting the entire spiritual and intellectual edifice of Jewish life.
* The Torah is referred to as the written and oral commandments.

The Bible does not **Contradict** itself. There may be slightly different version of an event. I think this lends greater credibility to the Bible. If it were collaboration then some obvious differences would have been changed or omitted. In comparing the different versions recorded by the gospel writers, we find some slight differences but not contradictions*. <Luke 24:4>, < John 20:12> < Mark 16:5>, < Matt 28:5>*

Wherever the Bible is taught and obeyed, it has transformed individuals and nations, and its fruits are always good. By its fruit we know the Bible is divine.

1. Why should we study the bible?

 A. The Bible is alive.

*John 6:63 The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. (NIV)*

1. The Bible is essentially a book of faith and growth
2. It is a love letter from God to man.
3. His Promises are recorded. Do you remember your wedding vows, New Year’s resolutions, promises to God?
4. It’s our weapon against sin

*Heb 4:12 For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. (NIV)*

*Eph 6:17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. (NIV)*

 B. It’s food for our spiritual growth.

1. Our QUIET TIME keeps us fresh and spiritually vital. Bible study provides the solid food that you need in order to grow and mature in the knowledge of God and Christ

*1 Pet 2:2-3 2 Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, 3 now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. (NIV)*

*Heb 5:13-14 13 Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. 14 But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil. (NIV)*

 C. Study for instruction in righteous living.

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

D. Study for direction in life.

*Ps 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. (NIV)*

E. Study for answered prayers.

*John 15:7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. (NIV)*

F. Study for Joy in Christ

*Job 23:12 I have not departed from the commands of his lips; I have treasured the words of his mouth more than my daily bread. (NIV)*

 G. Study for knowledge and to learn of God

*Deut 17:19 And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them: (KJV)*

*Rom 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.(NIV*)

1. Much of God's character is revealed in the Old Testament.

H. Study to learn and verify the truth for yourself.

*2 Tim 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (KJV)*

*Acts 17:11 Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true. (NIV)*

I. Study to let the Holy Spirit teach you.

*John 16:13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. (NIV)*

*I Jn 2:27A s for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit-- just as it has taught you, remain in him. (NIV)*

 J. Study so you can effectively witness and evangelize.

1. Good *evangelism* requires confidence based on knowledge.

*1 Pet 3:15 But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,*

11. Why is the Bible like no other book ever written?

A. It is the inspired word of God.

*2 Tim 3:16-17 16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. NIV*

 B. It has survived through the ages and will outlast the universe.

 1. Men have tried to destroy it.

*Matt 5:18 I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. (NIV)*

 **IV** **Types of Bible Studies**

 A. **New Testament Study**. Study one book on the New Testament

 B. **Old Testament Study**. Study one book on the Old Testament

 C. **Character Study** Study the Character traits of men and women in the Bible. Note their attitudes, strengths, weakness, etc. Then apply these insights to your life.

 D. **Biblical Thematic** Study a Biblical them. (ex. Prayer, love, Joy, etc.).

E. **Word Study**  Take one word from the Bible and closely

examine It

F. **Lifestyle Study** Study the lifestyle of early Christians, how

 did they live in their day and culture?

G. **Doctrinal Study** Study the doctrine of the Bible. Know what you believe and why. (Refer to Sermon Notes on Website).

 H. **Historical Study** Study the dress, laws and customs surrounding various people mentioned in the Bible. Begin to enjoy and added understanding of the Bible through a new awareness of archeology and historical research.