

"The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes. The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever.

Psalm 19:7-11 NIV

3

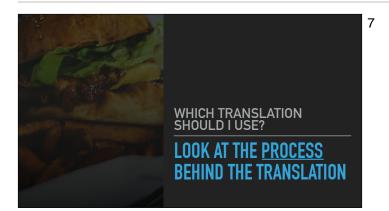
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"The ordinances of the Lord are sure and altogether righteous. They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb. By them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward."

Psalm 19:7-11 NIV













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# "I don't see how the Bible really applies to my life." "I've tried, but I just don't know how to study the Bible." "I'm not a professional; isn't that the pastor's job?" "I just don't have time." "I'm not sure if the Bible is even true." "To be honest, it just seems boring to me."

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RV - Septiment
WHY WE MUST STUDY
THE BIBLE

"The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned."

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Nonly those who have the Spirit of Christ can understand the Bible.

The Spirit inspired the Word.

The Spirit illuminates the Word.

The Spirit instructs us in the Word.

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HOW DO WE STUDY THE BIBLE?

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#### **HOW DO WE STUDY THE BIBLE?**

- Study the Bible simply.
  - You, the Bible, and the Holy Spirit.
  - If you can read, you can study.
- Study the Bible confidently.
  - ▶ The Holy Spirit is in you to enable you to do this!
- Study the Bible consistently.
  - We need to be equipped to study every text of every book.

**FAT** 

#### **HOW DO WE STUDY THE BIBLE?**

- Study the Bible diligently.
  - Learning to study the Bible will not happen overnight.
- Study the Bible intentionally.
  - Always study with a notebook and pen/pencil in hand.
- Study the Bible personally.
  - You will fall in love with the Author of the book.
  - You will find true life under the authority of the book.

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### DANGEROUS APPROACHES TO BIBLE STUDY THE EMOTIONAL APPROACH: "What feels right to me?" THE SPIRITUAL APPROACH: "What deep, hidden meaning is there for me?" THE PRAGMATIC APPROACH: "What works best for me?" THE SUPERFICIAL APPROACH: "What does this mean to me?" 鷈

## 30 A DEPENDABLE APPROACH TO BIBLE STUDY

31 **IMAGINE GOING ON A MISSION TRIP...** OBSERVE THEIR HOME: "What do I see?" UNDERSTAND THEIR HOME: "What does it mean?" BRING IT BACK HOME: "How does it relate?" APPLY IT IN YOUR HOME: "What do I do?"

**OBSERVE THEIR HOME** This step involves "What do I see?" exploration. Discover what the text says. A question of <u>content</u>.

BRING IT BACK HOME This step involves implications. "How does it relate?" Discover how the text travels. A question of connection.

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This step involves APPLY IT TO YOUR HOME ▶ "What do I do?" application. Discover how the text transforms. A question of <u>conduct</u>.

35

**OBSERVE THEIR HOME:** WHAT DO I SEE?

"You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel."

Matthew 23:24 NIV

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LEARN TO LOOK...

- The art of Bible reading is seeing.
- Look for what the Word emphasizes.
  - Order is the author giving strategic importance to something by putting it in a certain order?
  - Exaggeration does the author exaggerate something for intentional effect or emphasis?
  - Chiasm does the author highlight a main idea through a parallel structure in the text?

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EAT THIS BOOK

Devouring the Word of God