THE IMPORTANCE OF BIBLE STUDY
2 Timothy 2:15
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INTRODUCTION
1. It is my hope in studying this lesson that a greater desire will be instilled in your hearts to study the Bible.
2. The attendance at Bible study on Sunday morning and Wednesday night is not what it can and ought to be.
3. Ignorance of Bible knowledge is far too prevalent among members of the church today.
4. The sad thing of it is-- they are willfully ignorant -- 2 Pet. 3:5.
   (1) Many do not take advantage of the opportunities they have to study the Bible to learn what it teaches.
   (2) They do not attend Sunday morning Bible Study and Wednesday night Bible Study periods.
5. Let us study some reasons for studying the Bible.

I. THE VALUE OF THE SCRIPTURES TO OUR LIVES
1. The scriptures make us WISE:
   (1) Psa. 119:98 -- "Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies; for they are ever with me."
   (2) 2 Tim. 3: 14 - 15
2. The scriptures SATISFY man's HIGHEST DESIRES.
   (1) Job 23: 12 "I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary food".
   (2) Psa. 19: 8- 10; Matt. 5:6
3. They inspire HOPE in the soul.
   (1) Rom. 15:4
4. They impart JOY.
   (1) Psa. 19:8; Acts 8:39
5. They COMFORT IN SORROW:
   (1) Psa. 119: 92 "Unless thy law had been my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction."
   (2) I Thess. 4:18
6. They SAVE THE SOUL:
   (1) Rom. 1:16
   (2) James 1: 21

II. SOME REASONS FOR STUDYING THE BIBLE
1. In order to KNOW GOD -- Col. 1:10.
   (1) We act like we do many times because we do not know God.
   (2) We cannot know God through nature -- the idol worshipper worships the sun and never sees the God behind the Sun.
   (3) I can only know God through revelation -- I Cor. 1:21.
2. In order to KNOW CHRIST -- Eph. 4:20.
   (1) How many of us really know Christ?
2. His love? -- John 3:16
3. His Spirit? -- Rom. 8:9
4. His Example? -- I Pet. 2:21

3. To have FAITH produced in our hearts -- Rom. 10:17; 2 Cor. 5:7; Heb. 11:6.
4. To gain KNOWLEDGE with which to teach others.
   (1) The religion of Christ is a taught religion -- Matt. 28:19 - 20; Heb. 5:12.
   (2) Parents must teach their children -- Eph. 6:1 - 4; Deut. 6:6 - 9.
   (3) We are to be ready always to give an answer to every man that asks us a reason of the hope that is in us -- I Pet. 3:15.
5. To know the TRUTH -- I Tim. 4:3; John 8:32; Eph. 5:17
6. To learn how to EVALUATE things of LIFE:
   (1) What do I put the most value on? The world, or things spiritual?
   (2) What means the most to you, a good name or money? -- Prov. 22:1.
   (4) The value of the Kingdom -- Matt. 6:33.
   (6) Christ must come before family -- Matt. 10:34 - 37.
8. To SEE MYSELF AS GOD SEES ME -- James 1:23 - 25; I Cor. 13:12.

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