

LOGF NOTES 03.17.19

40 Days In The Word: How to Study a Bible Passage

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Psalm 119:11 I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

The Key: asking the right kind of questions.

There are four categories you use in Bible study:

1. Observation: What does it say?
2. Interpretation: What does it mean?
3. Correlation: What other verses explain it?
4. Application: What am I going to do about it?

All scripture is profitable and has a purpose...

2 Timothy 3:16 (TLB) The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us do what is right.

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

1. What does it say? (Observation)

Read the passage several times and observe what it says and write it down.

1. Paul intends to send two men to Philippi.
2. Paul endorsed these guys as role models.
3. What are these guys like? Why is Paul endorsing them? What about them is praiseworthy?

2. What does it mean? (Interpretation)

This passage gives us the five marks of what it means to be a man of God, or for that matter, a woman of God. The attributes listed in this passage are to be copied in our lives and we are to honor those who possess these qualities.

V20-21 I have no one else like him, who will show genuine concern for your welfare. For everyone looks out for their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ.

- **A godly man/woman is caring.**

V22 Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel.

- **God is looking for men and women who are consistent.**

V25 But I think it is necessary to send back to you Epaphroditus, my brother, co-worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger, whom you sent to take care of my needs.

- **A godly man or woman is cooperative.**

The Christian life is a family (brother), it's a fellowship (co-worker) and it's a fight (soldier).

V26 For he longs for all of you and is distressed because you heard he was ill.

- **A Godly man/woman is considerate.**

You think about how your actions, words and choices will affect other people.

V27, 30 Indeed he was ill, and almost died...he almost died for the work of Christ. He risked his life to make up for the help you yourselves could not give me.

- **A godly man or woman is courageous.**

Do you have a convenient faith or a courageous faith?

Does your faith cost you anything? Is there any sacrifice you are making? Are you breaking a sweat only for money or also for faith? Is your faith worth effort, a response, a sacrifice? Are we soft, complacent, lazy or are we pursuing, diligent, faith-filled, seeking, reaching, devoted, growing, sacrificing, risking, pushing forward...

WE HAVE A GREAT CAUSE! WE HAVE A GREAT MISSION! LIVES ARE AT STAKE! OUR MISSION IS OF GREATEST IMPORTANCE! OUR LEADER IS THE GREATEST OF ALL TIME!

3. Correlation.

Is there anything else in the Bible that will help me understand this passage?

4. Application: What am I going to do about it?

The sages have a saying: we study to learn to do.

Is there a sin to confess?

Is there a prayer to pray?

Is there a promise to claim?

Is there an error to avoid?

Is there an attitude to change?

Is there a truth to believe?

Is there a command to obey?

Is there something to thank God for?

Is there an example to follow?

Life Group Discussion

1. Discuss the memory verse this week:

Psalm 119:11 I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

2. Discuss this saying of the sages: "We study, to learn, to do."

3. What does it look like to be caring?

4. Why is it important to be consistent? What does this mean?

5. What is the opposite of cooperative? How does this cause problems?

6. Elaborate on what it means to be considerate?

7. Share a time when you were courageous. How can we challenge each other to be courageous for God?