

Lesson 3

Christian Growth and Daily Responsibility

Your Christian growth, which is aided by a proper relationship to your church, will be further aided by fulfilling daily spiritual responsibilities such as Bible study, prayer, and witnessing.

I. Bible Study

The Bible contains sixty-six (66) books. It was written by forty authors over a period of sixteen hundred (1,600) years. Yet its theme is consistently redemption from sin through Christ.

A. Bible Facts

1. The human authors received the Bible by _____ of God (II Timothy 3:16-17).
2. The Bible came not by the _____, but men spake as they were moved by the _____ (II Peter 1:21).
3. _____ and _____ will pass away, but not God's Word (Matthew 24:35).
4. The Bible is superior to all philosophy because it was not given by _____ wisdom, but by the _____ (I Corinthians 2:13).

B. Reasons for Bible Study by the Individual

1. It is commanded. "Study to show thyself _____" (II Timothy 2:15).
2. The Bible is profitable for _____, _____, _____, and _____ (II Timothy 3:16).
3. The Bible will give you _____ over sin (Psalm 119:11).
4. Summarize II Timothy 3:17 as to what the Bible can do for you.

5. The Bible is a guiding light to the Christian.
"_____ unto my feet and a _____ unto my path (Psalm 119:105).
6. God promises special blessings to those who read, hear, and keep the things written in the Bible (Revelation 1:3).
7. The Bible is the only means to test religious teachings. "If they speak not according to this _____" (Isaiah 8:20).
8. What did Christ use to defeat Satan? (Matthew 4:4,7,10) The _____.

C. Procedure for Bible Study

1. Study it with the help of the Holy Spirit. "He shall _____ you all things" (John 14:26).
2. Study it daily. "They _____ the word with all _____ of mind, and searched the Scriptures _____" (Acts 17:11).
3. Study it obediently. "Be ye _____ of the Word and not _____ only" (James 1:22).
4. Study by memorizing. "Thy word have _____ that I might not sin against Thee" (Psalm 119:11).
5. Study the Bible systematically.
 - a. Study by reading it through once every year.
 - b. Study it through S.P.E.C.S.
 - S – sin to avoid
 - P – promises to claim
 - E – examples to follow
 - C – commands to obey
 - S – stumbling blocks to beware

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c. Study it by watch for the seven “P’s”

People	Places	Periods and Dates	Parallel Passages
Principle Verses	Practical Lessons		Prayers

D. Types of Bible Study

Every believer should have a daily quiet time and every Christian family should have a family altar. Public Bible study is provided by the church.

1. Quiet Time

David said, “I will _____ in thy precepts” (Psalm 119:15) A quiet time is a Christian’s personal relationship of talking and listening to God through prayer and reading the Word of God.

- a. Choose a convenient time.
- b. Be consistent – form a habit to do it every day.
- c. Elements of a quiet time
 - 1) Begin with prayer
 - 2) Bible reading
 - 3) Underline or memorize those verse with special meaning to you
 - 4) Apply Scripture to your life
 - 5) Close in prayer

2. Family Altar - see Deuteronomy 6:6

- a. Suggested plan for family worship at home
 - 1) Father reads some verses from the Bible. Also children can read some if old enough.
You may want to use a good Bible story book with children.
 - 2) Discuss what was read and ask questions about it.
 - 3) Sing some Christian songs – use youth songs.
 - 4) Have prayer requests and all pray.
 - 5) Have a weekly memory verse.
- b. This time can be as long or as short as your family sees fit.

II. Prayer

Someone said that Bible study is God speaking to you while prayer is you speaking to God.

- A. Prayer is made to be of the _____ (Acts 12:5).
 - B. Prayer is in the name of _____ (John 14:13).
 - C. Prayer is by the means of _____ (Ephesians 6:18).
 - D. Prayer is to be in accordance with the _____ of God (I John 5:14,15).
 1. What is prayer?
 - a. It is asking (Matthew 7:7,8).
 - b. It is asking for something (I John 5:14,15).
 - c. It is adoration, confession, thanksgiving, and supplication.
 - E. What are some hindrances to having our prayers answered?
 1. Wrong relationship of _____ and _____ (I Peter 3:7).
 2. If you will not _____, your Father will not _____ (Matthew 6:14,15).
 3. Asking for things that are not according to the _____ of God hinders (I John 5:14).
 4. If I regard _____ in my _____, God will not hear me (Psalm 66:18).
 5. Asking _____ in prayers (James 4:3)
 6. Without faith it is impossible to _____ (Hebrews 11:6).
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- F. How do you get the hindrances removed?
1. If we _____ our sins... (I John 1:9).
 2. If we _____ God and do His _____ (John 9:31).
- G. Some things you can pray for specifically
- I Timothy 2:2 _____
- II Thessalonians 3:1,2 _____
- I Timothy 2:1 _____
- Philippians 4:6 _____
- Matthew 5:44 _____
- Psalms 51:1-4 _____
- James 1:5 _____
- Revelation 22:20 _____

III. Witnessing for Christ to Others

- A. What is witnessing?
1. It is bringing people to Christ (John 1:41-42).
 2. It is fishing for the souls of men (Matthew 4:19).
- B. Why should a Christian witness?
1. Christ declared it to be our responsibility. List the areas to witness from Acts 1:8.

 2. Christ set the example to follow.
 - a. Who did Christ witness to? _____ (John 3:4)
 - b. Who did He seek to save? _____ (Luke 19:10)
 3. We are saved to bring forth _____ (John 15:16).
 4. We are to be _____ and not _____ only (James 1:22).
 5. The early church effectively witnessed (Acts 5:29-32; 8:1-4).
- C. How does one witness?
1. Elements of a Plan
 - a. must convince the individual of his lost condition and need for the Savior
 - b. must present God's plan of salvation as presented in the Bible
 - c. the drawing of the lost into a personal, open, and public confession of faith in Christ
 2. Scriptural Plan
 - a. Why does a man need to be saved? (Romans 3:23)
 - b. What provision has God made for man? (Romans 6:23; 5:8)
 - c. What warning does man receive from God? (Romans 6:23)
 - d. What must man do? (Romans 10:9,10,13)

Note: Those who do not witness for Christ are often weak in faith, fearful of heart, and without assurance of victory. Those who speak out for the Lord Jesus Christ not only fortify themselves, but they also grow in grace much faster than those who keep silent. Read Romans 1:16.
