

SERIES: HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE

"How to Make Your Bible Come Alive" (Psalm 119)

"Lord, from the cowardice that dare not face new truth; from the laziness that is contented with half truth; from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, Good Lord, deliver us." – Prayer from a Kenyan Christian

I. YOU MUST APPRECIATE THE VIRTUES OF THE WORD OF GOD

A. THE BIBLE IS A TIMELESS BOOK (PSALM 119:89, 152)

"All of the Bible's enemies have not torn one hole in its holy vesture, nor stolen one flower from its wonderful garden, nor diluted one drop of honey from its abundant hive, nor broken one string of its thousand-stringed harp, nor drowned one sweet word in infidel ink." – Robert G. Lee

I Peter 1:25, "But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you."

B. THE BIBLE IS A TRUTHFUL BOOK (PSALM 119:142, 151, 160)

John 17:17, "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth."

I Corinthians 14:37-38, ³⁷ If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord. ³⁸ But if any man be ignorant, let him be ignorant."

II Timothy 3:16, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:"

Matthew 4:4, "But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

II Peter 1:21, "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

C. THE BIBLE IS A TREASURED BOOK (PSALM 119:72, 103, 127)

II. YOU MUST ASSIMILATE THE VITALITY OF THE WORD OF GOD

Hebrews 4:12, "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

John 6:63, "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing; the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life."

A. PRAY OVER IT (PSALM 119:12)

Luke 24:45, "Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,"

Luke 24:32, "And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?"

B. PONDER IT (PSALM 119:15, 147-148)

When you read a passage, ask these questions:

1. Is there a promise to claim?
2. Is there a lesson to learn?
3. Is there a blessing to enjoy?
4. Is there a command to obey?
5. Is there a sin to avoid?
6. Is there a new thought to carry with me?

C. PEN IT DOWN

D. PRESERVE IT (PSALM 119:11, 16)

E. PRACTICE IT (PSALM 119:1-5)

"If you want to know more of the Word of God, you must first obey the part you already know." – Adrian Rogers

"It's not the part of the Bible I don't understand that gives me a hard time. It's the part I do understand." – Mark Twain

F. PROCLAIM IT (PSALM 119:13, 27, 46, 172)

III. YOU CAN NOW APPROPRIATE THE VALUES OF THE WORD OF GOD

A. IT WILL BE A SOURCE OF VICTORY (PSALM 119:45)

B. IT WILL BE A SOURCE OF GROWTH (PSALM 119:32)

I Peter 2:2, "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:"

C. IT WILL BE A SOURCE OF JOY (PSALM 119:54, 111)

D. IT WILL BE A SOURCE OF POWER (PSALM 119:28)

E. IT WILL BE A SOURCE OF GUIDANCE (PSALM 119:105)
