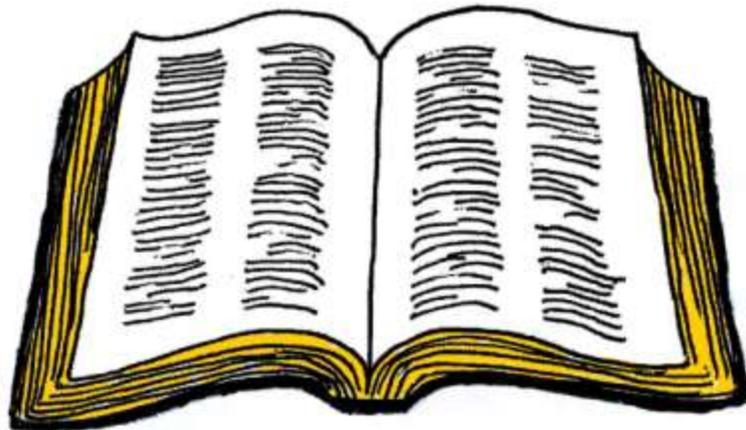


Objectives for How to Study the Bible:

- 1) Explain how the Bible came about and its significance.
- 2) Learn several reasons for studying the Bible for yourself and how to study it.
- 3) Explain why there are so many translations in use today.
- 4) Learn to use a concordance and various other Bible helps and practice using the Bible.
- 5) Learn to express yourself and share your relationship with God with others.

The Bible is truth, giving directions for our lives. The purpose of this Personal Bible Study Course is to teach newcomers to the Bible how to become familiar with it and how to use the Bible for personal growth in relating to God and to other people.



Significance of the Bible

Objectives for this session:

- 1) Explain the significance of the Bible.
- 2) Name at least two reasons for studying the Bible.
- 3) Describe who wrote the Bible.
- 4) Give at least one reason for the many translations in use today.
- 5) Identify chapter and verse numbers and tell how to use them.

6) Point out a cross reference in your Bible.

Why is the Bible important?

The Bible is unique. It is the only ancient book that is still widely read. It has been preserved through the centuries in various manuscripts. The unique thing about the Bible is that it is God breathed.

2 Timothy 3:16.

God's Word is living and powerful. God's Word stands forever. The Bible tells who God is and how He interacts with people. It also talks honestly about the nature of people.

Hebrews 4:12

Isaiah 40:8

Exodus 34:6-7

Leviticus 20:7-8

Romans 3:9, 23

The God of the universe has told us about His character and given us a glimpse of His plans in the Bible. It was written over thousands of years by many different authors. Each of the authors knew God by experience and told what they knew about Him. That's a witness. In Scripture each author is a separate witness to God, so when the same concepts appear over and over, they are truth. Truth is determined by two or three witnesses.

John 8:17-18.

The Koran and the Book of Mormon were written after the time of Jesus and were written by only one author each.

Why do we need to study the Bible?

The Bible brings us directions for a complete life.

Deuteronomy 8:2-3

Matthew 4:4

John 10:10

Two reasons to study the Bible for ourselves:

1) To determine what is true:

John 8:31-32

Luke 24:26-27

Acts 17:10-12

2) To get to know Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit intimately which is eternal, abundant life.

Jeremiah 31:34

Matthew 22:36-40

John 6:45; 17:3

2 Peter 3:15-16 (implies what Paul wrote is Scripture.)

Therefore, it is necessary to search the whole Bible, Old Testament and New Testament, to learn to know God and relate to Him who is unchangeable.

Malachi 3:6

Hebrews 13:8.

You just have to be willing to learn what the Bible really says about God and people. Let the Bible interpret the Bible to you. Seek God expecting the Holy Spirit to teach you as you read Scripture and other resources.

Jeremiah 29:12-13

John 14:26

The Bible is not a textbook that we figure out by ourselves. You don't have to be a scholar with lots of degrees to understand the Bible. The Holy Spirit is your individual teacher. He gives you wisdom, knowledge, and discernment to know what is truth and how it applies to you. He shows you what is right or wrong about a teaching or prophecy you have gotten from others.

1 John 2:27

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

1Thessalonians 5:21