1 - **Study To Show Thyself Approved -**

**Being a Good Student of God’s Word -** 2 Timothy 2:14-26

2 - **Effective Bible Study Requires Purpose…**

1. To **save my soul**! (1 Timothy 4:16; 1 Peter 2:2)
2. To become “**Christ-like**”. (Romans 8:28-29)
3. To **fight temptations** & find the way of escape (1 Cor. 10:12-13)
4. To **show us the way each day!** (Ps. 119:105; 86:11; Matt. 7:13-14)
5. To **defeat our adversary**! (Matthew 4:4, 7, 10)
6. To “***grow up***” and mature. (Ephesians 4:13; Hebrews 5:14)
7. To **defend the truth.** (Jude 3; 1 Peter 3:15)
8. To **share the good news** with others (1 Tim. 4:11-16; 2 Tim. 2:2)
9. To **make me everything I need to be**! (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

3 - **Effective Bible Study Requires the proper attitude**…

* 1. **Reverence**. (1 Thessalonians 2:13; Malachi 2:5; Psalms 119:38)

1. **Spiritual**. (1 Corinthians 2:14-3:3; Romans 8:5-6)
2. **Necessity or need**. (Matt. 5:6; Job 23:11-12; Ps. 119:11, 36, 40,47)
3. **Value**. (Psalms 19:10-12; 119:11, 127, 162; Matthew 13:44-45)
4. **Relevance** & **personal application**. (2 Cor. 13:5; Matthew 7:3-5)
5. **Joy**. (Psalms 1:2; 119:14, 47, 92, 111, 162, 174; Jeremiah 6:10)
6. **Eagerness**. (Acts 17:11; Matthew 5:6; 1 Peter 2:2; Acts 10:33)
7. **Humility**. (James 1:19-21; Isaiah 55:9-10; Jer. 10:23; Prov. 14:12)
8. **Duty**. (2 Timothy 2:15; Hebrews 5:12; Luke 17:10)
9. **Sufficiency**. (Deuteronomy 29:29; Jude 3; 2 Peter 1:3)

4 - **Effective Bible Study Requires…**

**Planning.**

* + When? Requires wise use of our time   
    (Ephesians 5:15-16) – it must be set aside.
  + What? We need to plan what to study.   
    (Types of Bible study: contextual, topical, )
  + Planning involves the concept of discipline –   
    (1 Corinthians 9:25; 1 Timothy 4:7-8)

5 - **Types of Bible Study**

* **Group Studies** - Acts 20:18-20, “…*teaching you publicly and from house to house…*”
* **Also needs to include our personal study** and meditation on God’s word.

6 - **Effective Bible Study Requires…**

**Concentration –**

* It begins with a mind-set and attitude (Colossians 3:1-2; Romans 8:5-8)
* Practically, as with prayer, do we do our personal Bible study in a place that is free from distractions? (Luke 5:16; 10:41)

7 - **Effective Bible Study Requires…**

**Frequency –**

* + **Personal Bible study** – must be continual and regular. (Joshua 1:7-8; Psalms 1:1-3;   
    Deuteronomy 6:4-6; 2 Timothy 4:6; 2 Peter 1:12-15)
  + **Public Bible studies** don’t accomplish much if we (or our families) are irregular in our personal study & attendance of the classes.
  + Keep “**filled** up! (Colossians 1:9; 3:16)

8 - **Effective Bible Study Requires**…

**That we put into practice what we study –**

* + It is not enough to just be a “learner”. We must also be ***“doers”.*** (James 1:22-27; Matthew 7:21-27; Psalms 119:60).
  + Ezra set his heart to **study**, to **practice** and to **teach** the law of the Lord. (Ezra 7:10)

9 - **4 Key Questions For Bible Study**

1. **What does the text say**? (Observation)
2. **What does the passage mean to the original audience**? (Interpretation)
3. **How does the passage connect or relate to the rest of the scriptures**? (Connection)
4. **How does this passage change my life**? (Application)

10 - **Reading vs. Studying**

**To study** is to allow for time for meditation (Psalms 1:2; 119:97-99) and time to **expand our thoughts** through **related scriptures** and the **details** in the inspired words while making practical application.

* This is how the word of God comes alive! (Hebrews 4:12).
* Shallow bible study leads to shallow faith! (Matthew 13:5; Romans 11:33)

11 - **Effective Bible Study Requires**…

**The right tools –**

* + It starts with a Bible! **Your** **Bible**!
    - Needs to be **an appropriate translation** and not a paraphrase.
  + **Other tools? Reference tools**.
  + **Be a student!** (Approach bible study with at least the same degree of seriousness as we did towards our academic studies)

There is no substitute for **knowing what the text says**!

12 - **Effective Bible Study Produces Results**…

* It will **accomplish** that God desires. (Isaiah 55:9-11)
* It will **transform** your life. (Romans 12:1-2)
* It will enable yourself to be “***renewed day by day***”   
  (2 Corinthians 4:16)
* It is God’s *“****power… unto salvation”***. (Romans 1:16**)**
* **It will save your soul**! (James 1:21; 1 Peter 1:22-25)