

How about You?

The great tragedy among Christians today is that too many of us are under the Word of God, but not in it for ourselves.

What about you? Do you regularly read and study the Bible on your own? Or are you part of the majority of people who rarely if ever open the Bible for themselves? Here's a simple exercise to help you evaluate your Bible reading habits.

How often do you read your Bible? (Circle one)

Never Once a month once a week
two or three times a week every day

When you read it, how much time do you spend reading?

5 Min. or less 15 Min. 30 Min. 45 Min. 1 Hr. or more

Here are a few reasons that people give for not reading the Bible. Check the ones that express why you don't read the Bible more than you do.

- The Bible doesn't seem relevant to my life.
- The Bible seems confusing and hard to understand. I don't know how to make sense out of it.
- I used to read the Bible, and it made me feel good. But after a while, it didn't seem to have the same impact, so I finally gave it up.
- I feel guilty when I read the Bible.
- The Bible is hopelessly out-of-date. It may be interesting stories, but it has little significance for life today.
- I rely on my pastor or minister to explain the Bible to me. If I need to know something, he will tell me about it.
- I have doubts about the Bible's reliability.
- I don't have time, I'm too busy.
- The Bible seems boring to me.
- I don't own a Bible.
- The Bible is full of myths and half-truths. Why study something that lacks credibility?
- I don't read, period! It's not just the Bible; I don't read anything.

August 2 2009 Why study the bible? 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Let me suggest three benefits you can expect when you invest in a study of God's Word.

1. Bible study is ESSENTIAL to _____.

1 Peter 2:2

Let me give you three words to write in the margin of your Bible.

Attitude

Appetite

Aim

2. Bible study is ESSENTIAL to _____.

Hebrews 5:11-14

To become mature it takes time and good food.

The mark of spiritual maturity is not how much you understand, but how much you use.

In the spiritual realm, the opposite of ignorance is not knowledge but obedience.

3. Bible study is ESSENTIAL to _____.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for what?

First for teaching,

Second the Bible is useful for rebuking,

Third the Bible is useful for correcting,

Forth the Bible is useful for training in righteousness,

What is the overall purpose?

“so that we may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

Note these thoughts and ideas are strongly influenced by Living By the Book Howard and William Hendricks