



Attitudes in Bible Study

The right motive is essential to profitable Bible study

We must desire to learn the truth that makes us free (John 8:31-32), to attain the wisdom that leads to salvation in Christ (2 Timothy 3:15). However, the right motive is just one aspect of the right attitude in Bible study. Consider three other essential components.

Open Mind

Jesus said of some students in His day, “You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive” (Matthew 13:14, ESV). Their problem was closed minds which made them unteachable. We must not be afraid to admit that we are ignorant or to learn that what we have thought is wrong. We must be willing to accept the truth, along with the changes it requires us to make.

Willingness to Work

Have you ever said about someone, “I wish I knew the Bible as well as he or she did”? Well, there was probably a time when that person said the same thing about someone else. Then, he started to work. The Bible contains 66 books, 1,189 chapters, over 31,000 verses, or about 800,000 words. Obviously, no one will master all that in a few sessions! It takes work — consistent effort over a long period of time. In fact, even the best Bible students are constantly learning throughout their lives. The point is, you will not get much out of Bible study if you do not put much into it. A hit-and miss approach yields little. (You cannot learn much about history or science or mathematics or anything else that way, either.)

To Thoroughly Learn the Bible, You Must Invest Some Time and Effort

The noble-minded Bereans “received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily” (Acts 17:11). The blessed man meditates on what he reads (Psalm 1:2). Expectation of success while learning the Bible might seem overwhelming at the beginning, when we break it down into segments and approach it in a systematic way, it is not so difficult at all. To be sure there are some challenging parts; the Bible says so (2 Peter 3:16). Nevertheless, it promises us that we can understand it (Ephesians 3:4). God commands us to know His will (Ephesians 5:17) and He does not require the impossible. You can learn! Why not get started today?

-- by Frank Himmel

Services

Sunday Morning Class

9:30a

Worship: 10: 30a

(Also live-streamed)

No Sunday Evening Service

Wednesday Bible Study

7p

(Also Live-streamed)

Preacher

Michael Gors

Elders

Michael Gors

Gary Reynolds

Todd Stults

Deacons

Don Allison
Fellowship

Jim Clark
Visitation

Lowell Huffman
Media

Those Whom

We Support

MSOP

Cannon Taylor

INDIA

Bible Correspondence

Course/ Bibles

Leaders in Worship

November 15, 2020

Morning Worship

Announcements: Todd Stults

Song Leader: Don Allison

Opening Prayer: Bill Smith

Scripture: Jimmy Clark, *Psalms 33: 8-12*

Lord's Table: Jay Kellow

Sermon: Mike Gors,

"Let All the Earth Fear the Lord"

Closing Prayer: Gary Reynolds

Sound Room: Lowell Huffman

Wed. Evening Bible Study, Nov. 18th

Song Leading: Jacob Clark

Prayer: Lowell Huffman

Remember Calls and Cards to Our Shut-ins

Anna Funk--Westminster Village

Joyce Popplewell -- Heritage in Yorktown

Carl Gilstrap--Albany Health Care

Pam Smith--Waters of Yorktown Nursing Home

I will not willingly offend,
Nor be easily offended;
What's amiss I'll strive to mend,
And endure what can't be mended."
Sir Isaac Watts

What Are We Expecting from Our Prayers?

We pray because prayer works! James writes: "The effectual prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much" (5:16). If God never listened, or if God never answered our prayers "Yes," then why pray? There would be no motive to pray. We would say, "it just doesn't do any good." But we know better. All of us can be thankful for the numerous prayers answered in our lives. Prayer works! God is moved by the prayers of His people. But what are we expecting from our prayers? The simple answer would be, "We are expecting God to answer them." Thus, we pray in faith that He will respond. Sometimes, however, I feel that some look at prayer as the "magical fix all" to our problems. We make a mess of our marriage and then in desperation pray about our home and think God will now make it right. We mess up our health by poor eating habits and a lack of exercise and then lay in a hospital bed praying for our health to return. We think the church will grow just because "we have prayed for that." It seems that in all of this, we are expecting God to right all the wrongs, fix all the mistakes, and make everything fine simply because we have prayed about it. Now, this is not questioning the power of God but it is essential that we understand our roles and responsibilities and our need to work with Him. We find ourselves in a mess financially because we spend instead of saving. It will take more than words to right the wrongs of unwise decisions. We find ourselves in a troubled marriage because of gossiping, nagging, dishonesty, and negativity. A change of hearts and a renewed dedication are essential to turning that relationship around. God will not "fix it" without the cooperation of those "in it." We find ourselves in a stagnant church because of indifference. Such a church cannot grow by the members merely saying a prayer and then waiting with arms folded for something to happen. Obviously, God expects cooperation from us. Whether financial or familial, are we to expect that all one must do to fix the mess is pray and everything will be fine? Absolutely not! There are consequences to our choices and responsibilities that rest upon our shoulders. God will do His part but... we must do ours! - by Roger Shouse

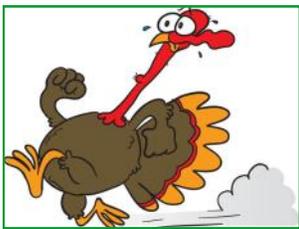
We are thankful for your presence today and are happy that we can provide a safe place for worship of our Lord. We ask that you please adhere to the guidelines of our governor who advises that we wear masks and distance ourselves from close contact with each other while at services. Communion packets and baskets for the contribution are at the double doors. Thank you for protecting yourself and each other while we are together.



Pack up and delivery day' for our Thanksgiving baskets is November 21st. The pantry is well stocked and ready for distribution.

Monetary donations are gratefully accepted

See Steve Gors



Connie Reynolds—Nov 15

Steve Gors--Nov. 15

Ann Witty—Nov 18

Lily Corcoran--Nov. 18

Delores Huffman—Nov 25

Rachel Chambers—Nov 27

Jade Myer--Nov. 28

Julie Allison—Nov 29

Carl Gilstrap--Nov. 30

Happy Birthday



In Need of Prayer

Angie Reed, MS

Adam Huffman, Recent surgery. Holding his own. Weekly kidney dialysis and chemo ongoing

Alex Odle, Cancer

Bill Smith, Hernia surgery pending

Bob Owens, Cancer. Kathy's cousin

Dan Proctor, Lela's son in NY. Dan has had a relapse in health and is going through difficult time

Debbie Perry, Bronchitis

Family of Charlene Huffman, Brother-in-law, Larry Rees passed away. He was the husband of Charlene's sister, Sonja Rees. Mr. Rees was a math teacher at Daleville for 40 years.

Family of Polly Light, Sister Polly, aged 96, passed away this past week. She attended Towne Acres and was the matriarch of an extended family

John Shock, Knee replacement. Doing well at home

Kathy Harper, Cellulitis, respiratory difficulties

Kim Ham, Cancer. Dana Kellow's sister

Larry Reynolds, Doing well

Linda Horning, Cancer. Some progress. Able to return to her daughter's home at following address:

3805 West Pettigrew Drive

Muncie, IN

Maliyah Allison, Covid positive

Mitch Kinder, Cancer, Sally's neighbor

Nick Hummel, Post surgery, chemo ongoing

Skylar Murphy, Gastro-intestinal issues.

Sylvia Carroll, Several health concerns

Susie Long, Debilitating arthritis in back

Wanda Reed, Recovering from chemo and radiation

Excited for a Moment

It is often the case that folks get excited about some new opportunity for work in the kingdom, or some new method of service in the church. That, of course, is a good thing – assuming that the new suggestion is in line with the authority in God’s Word. In fact, it is a worthy thing to be looking for new and better ways to spread the Word, reach lost sinners, and simply shine brightly as “lights in the world” (Matthew 5:14-16). But, some of the same folks who can be so initially thrilled with the possibility and opportunity then seem to lose that zeal just as quickly. These are the ones who push for a new plan, but after it has been undertaken, they show no commitment for following through with the actual work. Unfortunately, this often leads to the complete collapse and failure of the effort. Or, it results in extra work being placed on the backs of those who were already busy and engaged in the Lord’s service. Several warnings are found in the Scriptures about this failure to finish what we start. For example, Jesus spoke of the shame of one "having put his hand to the plow, and looking back" (Luke 9:62). And in the parable of the sower He described those whose hearts are like rocky soil who “receive the word with joy” but quickly “fall away.” In contrast, He urged us to be of the sort that “bring forth fruit with patience” (Luke 8:4-15). Do you have an idea for a new class, a special work, or a unique approach for something that needs to be done? If so, that’s great! Dedicated elders, Bible class teachers, and all Christians will be encouraged to hear your suggestion. If it passes the test of Scriptural authority, and if others agree that it is a wise and prudent method to pursue, then all can unite together to accomplish the goal. But realize that, once you have put the idea forward, you must also be willing to see it through. We need the applied energy of every Christian in planning and fulfilling the work of God. But, on the other hand, we already have too many who start but don’t finish important work in God’s kingdom. Think!

- by Greg Gwin

Let's Just Do What God Says

Religious division is a result of failing to do what the Lord says. It reflects an earthly mindset. The apostle Paul told the factious Corinthians: "for you are still fleshly. For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly, and are you not walking like mere men? For when one says, 'I am of Paul,' and another, 'I am of Apollos,' are you not mere men?" (1 Corinthians 3:3-4). Look around. Hundreds of denominations exist. They call themselves after men or peculiar doctrines. They engage in a plethora of unauthorized activities because this is what they want. Focus is put upon the social or political. All of this is done supposedly in the name of Christ. However, the Lord says, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven. Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophecy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness'" (Matthew 7:21-23). Religion has become so feeling and emotion oriented that to suggest that there are those who are practicing lawlessness "in the name of Christ" is to be mean spirited and unkind. There is no such thing as false worship in today's society. "Tolerance" for all the various ways of "serving God" is the call of today. Shame on us for suggesting that there is a pattern of authority for the worship and work of God's people. Frankly, with an attitude like this, we might as well write our own Bible. God's will is unity. We are to endeavor for it by following His plan in the Scriptures (Ephesians 4:1-6). We are not at liberty to toss aside any of the teachings of the Bible. Yet, in order for denominationalism and division to exist, tossing aside what God says is exactly what is being done. It's no wonder that the world has responded with disbelief (see John 17:20-21). Let's just do what God says. That may sound simplistic, but it is still the key to pleasing God and maintaining unity among believers. Let's be just Christians. It can be done - it must be done if we are to please God. May we all examine ourselves, our practices, and our doctrines, and see if we are following God's will. It's in the Book.

--T. Doy Moyer