

Notes for the Ekklēsia Meeting

Info: (651) 283-0568 Discipleship Training Ministries, Inc www.dtminc.org Today's Date: February 8, 2015

Why Study The Bible?

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The Word of God brings knowledge leading to salvation –

“You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them,¹⁵ and that from childhood *you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.*”
2 Timothy 3:14,15

“So faith *comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.*” Romans 10:17

Brings instruction and maturity --

“All Scripture is inspired by God (lit., “God-breathed”) and *profitable for teaching, for reproof* (exposure of error), *for correction* (lit., “straightening-up-again”), *for training in righteousness*;¹⁷ so that the person of God may be adequate (fully prepared; proficient), equipped for every good work.”
2 Timothy 3:16,17

“Now these things happened to them as an example, and *they were written for our instruction*, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.”
1 Corinthians 10:11

“For whatever was written in earlier times *was written for our instruction*, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.”
Romans 15:4

Leads to effective living --

“Only be strong and very courageous; be careful to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, so that you may have success wherever you go.⁸ This book of the law (Heb. = *torah*, meaning “instruction”) shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may *be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success.*”
Joshua 1:7,8

Teaches us a healthy reverence toward God, and respect toward others

“Now ...when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself a copy of this law on a scroll in the presence of the Levitical priests.¹⁹ It shall be with him and he shall read it all the days of his life, *that he may learn to fear the LORD his God*, by carefully observing all the words of this law and these statutes,²⁰ *that his heart may not be lifted up above his countrymen* and that he may not turn aside from the commandment, to the right or the left, so that he and his sons may continue long in his kingdom in the midst of Israel.”
Deuteronomy 17:18-20

“Establish Your word to Your servant, as *that which produces reverence for You.*” Psalm 119:38

The Word of God brings many benefits --

“The law of the LORD is perfect (sound, wholesome), *restoring the soul*;

The testimony of the LORD is sure, *making wise the simple.*

⁸ The precepts of the LORD are right, *rejoicing the heart*;

The commandment of the LORD is pure, *enlightening the eyes.*

⁹ The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;

The judgments of the LORD are true; *they are righteous altogether.*

¹⁰ They are *more desirable than gold*, yes, than much fine gold;

Sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.

¹¹ Moreover, *by them Your servant is warned*;

In keeping them there is great reward.”

Psalm 19:7-11

Helps us to discern and overcome sin --

“¹² Who can discern his errors? Acquit me of hidden faults.

¹³ Also keep back Your servant from presumptuous sins;

Let them not rule over me; Then I will be blameless,

And I shall be acquitted of great transgression.

Psalm 19:12-13

(Note, context is continuation of verses above.)

“How can a young person keep his way pure? *By keeping it according to Your word.*

¹⁰ With all my heart I have sought You; do not let me wander from Your commandments.

¹¹ Your word I have treasured in my heart, *that I may not sin against You.*”

Psalm 119:9-11

“So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, ‘*If you continue in (abide in) My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine;*’³² *and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.*’³³ They answered Him, ‘We are Abraham's descendants and have never yet been enslaved to anyone; how is it that You say, ‘‘You will become free?’’³⁴ Jesus answered them, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, *everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin.*’³⁵ The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son does remain forever.³⁶ *So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.*”

John 8:31-36

God's Word gives us wisdom and understanding --

“O how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day.

⁹⁸ Your commandments *make me wiser than my enemies*, for they are ever mine.

⁹⁹ I have *more insight than all my teachers*, for Your testimonies are my meditation.

¹⁰⁰ *I understand more than the aged*, because I have observed Your precepts.”

Psalm 119:97-100

“Your word is *a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*”

Psalm 119:105

God's Word gives us hope, comfort, and revitalizes our faith --

“Remember the word to Your servant, *in which You have made me hope.*

⁵⁰ *This is my comfort in my affliction, that Your word has revived me.*”

Psalm 119:49,50

“Those who love Your law *have great peace*, and nothing causes them to stumble.”

Psalm 119:165

God's Word incorporated into your life leads to effectiveness in prayer --

“If you abide in Me, *and My words abide in you*, ask whatever you wish, and *it will be done for you.*”

John 15:7

Following God's Word will lead us to a more consecrated life --

“Sanctify them (set them apart; consecrate them) in the truth; Your word is truth.”

John 17:17

Right understanding and discernment come from diligent study and consistent implementation of the Word --

“*Be diligent* (make haste; do one's best; spare no effort; work hard, study) *to present yourself approved to God as a workman* who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.”

2 Timothy 2:15

“For though by this time you ought to be (are obligated to be; indebted to be) teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food.¹³ For everyone who partakes *only* of milk is not accustomed to (inexperienced in or unacquainted with) the word of righteousness, for he is an infant.¹⁴ But solid food is for the mature, *who because of practice* (repeated activity: customary habit) *have their senses* (faculties of perception; abilities to appraise or evaluate) *trained* (Gk. – gymnazō = ‘working out’) *to discern* (distinguish; thoroughly judge) good and evil.”

Hebrews 5:12-14

Following God's Word will lead us into all that God has for us --

“And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, *which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance* among all those who are sanctified.”

Acts 20:32

God's Word is unchanging and never fails, ...tried, true, an eternal investment --

“Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill.

¹⁸ For truly I say to you, *until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished.*¹⁹ Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 5:17-19

“Forever, O LORD, *Your word is settled* in heaven”

Psalm 119:89

“As for God, His way is blameless; *The word of the LORD is tested* (proven true by experience); He is a shield to all who take refuge in Him.”

II Samuel 22:31

“The grass withers, the flower fades, but *the word of God stands forever.*”

Isaiah 40:8