

CHAPTER 1



Study

*Be diligent to present yourself approved to God,
a worker who does not need to be ashamed,
rightly dividing the word of truth.*

2 TIMOTHY 2:15

The above verse is one of my favorites. To be a worker for God, that is to be His spokesperson, we should know His word. The best way to learn His word is to *study*. *Study* for me can go pretty deep. As I am reading the Bible, a word will ‘*jump out*’ at me and I am on a chase to see what it means, which in turn leads me to other word studies. Now for you, you may read the Bible and stop where there is a meaning behind a meaning, like with the parables. Either way is great, because it’s

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communication with Holy Spirit. He is leading us to a deeper knowledge of His word. When we are reading His word and something jumps out at us or intrigues us, that's when we should stop and listen to where He is leading us. I am so thankful that the word of God is alive and sharper than any two edged sword (Heb 4:12). EVERY time you read it, you will be shown something new!!! That's so amazing to the natural mind.

Some people think of Bible *study* as a hard task, like when we were in school. *Study* is simply reading God's word. As we take the time to read, He will speak to us through what we are reading. With that being said, you must set aside a time everyday to read His word. This is most important if you want to build a relationship with Him. That's why "*Study*" is the first key. It's in that quiet *study* time that we gain wisdom and knowledge without even knowing it. See, as we read, we are depositing His word into our spirit-man, and then Holy Spirit can bring it up to us as we need it. Let's look at the word *study* from the Strong's Concordance.

STUDY:

from G4710; to use speed, i.e. to make effort, be prompt or earnest: —do (give) diligence, be diligent (forward), endeavour, labour, study.

These meanings teach us that we should make a conscious effort. Not only a conscious effort, but to be prompt and earnest with all diligence to read His word. Even the Webster's Dictionary says:

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STUDY, *noun*, to study that is, to set the thought or mind. To fix the mind closely upon a subject; to muse; to dwell upon in thought. To consider attentively; to examine closely.

1. Literally, a setting of the mind or thoughts upon a subject
2. Attention; meditation; contrivance.
3. Subject of attention.

I found it interesting that the Webster's Dictionary even included the study of the Bible with reference to a scripture verse!

STUDY, *verb*, thyself; what rank or what degree thy wise Creator has ordained for thee.

1. To form or arrange by previous thought; or to commit to memory; as, to study a speech.
2. To endeavor diligently.
3. That ye study to be quiet and do your own business. [1 Thessalonians 4:11](#).

Let's take a look at the above verse, 1 Thessalonians 4:11, in the AMPC version:

To make it your ambition *and* definitely endeavor to live quietly *and* peacefully, to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we charged you.

This verse starts out by saying for us to make it our ambition and definite endeavor! How do we do that? By *study*! Don't allow yourself to be overwhelmed at the

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'big picture' by looking at all you may not know. Instead, fix your mind on one chapter, verse, or even word! If you're going through a tough time, find the verses on that particular issue and write them on an index card, or put them in your phone as a reminder. Then read those verses throughout the day and you will be overwhelmingly surprised at how you will begin to retain those verses! To this day, I still use this technique to get me through trying times. Since I started this procedure many years ago, I now know the verses to the majority of the issues of life that come my way. And you will too, if you endeavor to *study* to show yourself approved to God, a workman who needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth (2Tim 2:15)! Holy Spirit will bring to your remembrance the verses you need, when you need them (John 14:26). However, He can only bring to our remembrance what we have previously studied. So we can see through this the real importance of getting His word in us. He will do His job as we do ours!

A *study* key to keep in mind is to be sensitive to the leading of Holy Spirit. As stated previously, as you are reading, He will unction you to stop and look up a word or phrase. Again, if something seems to *'jump out'* at you, stop and ask Holy Spirit what He is trying to convey to you. This is the start of a wonderful relationship with Him. When He moves on you, be sensitive to His promptings. As you lean into what He is saying, you will build that relationship that you desire of Him, and He

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of you! You'll begin to just '*know*' when He is leading you in a certain direction. If He can speak or prompt or lead us by His unctions, then He can begin to teach us more of His ways. Psalm 86:11 says, "Teach me Your way, O LORD; I will walk in Your truth; unite my heart to fear Your name." Glory!

During our *study* of His word is where we learn who He is. As we read the Bible, we are reading the heart of God. We learn who He is, in the same way we have learned about our closest friend. Even our closest friend knows us by talking with us. It's in conversation that we learn who our friend is, how they think, what they like, or dislike. By asking questions, we find out how they feel about certain subjects. We can tell each other our deepest thoughts, knowing that our secrets are safe with them. If we have a Bible studying friend, they will know the verses to pray over us and our issues of life. Well, that's how a relationship with the Trinity works! As we read the word, we can simply ask a question, and *suddenly* He will answer us, either by leading us to a verse or by speaking to our spirit-man. Our Bible believing friend knows how to pray over us, and Jesus does the same by ever making intercession (*praying*) for us (Rom 8:34)! Therefore, we should be able to convey our deepest thoughts to the God of the universe easier than we do to our closest friend. In doing so, we are building a relationship. We know a relationship takes two people in conversation, therefore, we should always listen for that still small voice to speak back to our heart. He will

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answer us, and we will learn to hear Him quicker and quicker, easier and easier, as we take the time to listen. Listening is a very important part of communication. Let's purpose in our heart to be a good listener to the Trinity especially, but also to those around us that we might have a Godly answer which we have learned through *study*.

As we read and *study* the word of God, we are conveying to God that we love Him. We are saying to Him that we want to know Him and the power of His resurrection (Phil 3:10). We're saying that we are endeavoring to become more like His Son (2Cor 3:18). Let's look at John 14:21:

Jesus said, "He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him."

I like to cross reference verses, and read them in different translations. This is *study* in its simplest form. I recommend you read the Bible in the New King James Version. This version will capitalize the Trinity, and then you will know who is speaking. Whether the New King James Version, or another, just read one that makes it easy for you to understand. I started with the King James Version, because I wanted to remember the verses I studied, in the original text. I then moved to the New King James Version, because it was clearer on who was speaking.

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