

MEMORY GEM: Man's words, if of any value, echo the words of God. [CT 423:3]

The effect on the mind: As a means of intellectual training, the Bible is more effective than any other book, or all other books combined. [Ed 124.2]

2) Why else is it important to study the Bible? _____

Matt 24:24, 1 Cor 8:5, Eph 4:14

I have been shown that many who profess to have a knowledge of present truth know not what they believe. They do not understand the evidences of their faith. They have no just appreciation of the work for the present time. When the time of trial shall come, there are men now preaching to others who will find, upon examining the positions they hold, that there are many things for which they can give no satisfactory reason. Until thus tested they knew not their great ignorance. And there are many in the church who take it for granted that they understand what they believe; but, until controversy arises, they do not know their own weakness. When separated from those of like faith and compelled to stand singly and alone to explain their belief, they will be surprised to see how confused are their ideas of what they had accepted as truth. [5T 707,2]

Jesus always directs to scriptures – Luke 10:25-28, Luke 24:24-27, 44-45

3) Point #1 – _____ [Isa 28:9, Heb 5:13-14, 1 John 2:27, John 6:45]

The mind that depends upon the judgment of others is certain, sooner or later, to be misled. [Ed 230.4]

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. [John 14:26]

The servants of Christ are to prepare no set speech to present when brought to trial for their faith. Their preparation is to be made day by day, in treasuring up in their hearts the precious truths of God's word, in feeding upon the teaching of Christ, and through prayer strengthening their faith; then, when brought into trial, the Holy Spirit will bring to their remembrance the very truths that will reach the hearts of those who shall come to hear. God will flash the knowledge obtained by diligent searching of the Scriptures, into their memory at the very time when it is needed. [Mar 45.5]

4) Since the Holy Spirit is the teacher, does that mean I do not have to listen to anyone?

_____ Eph 4:11-13, Acts 17:11

5) Point #2 – _____

The student of the Bible should be taught to approach it in the spirit of a learner. We are to search its pages, not for proof to sustain our opinions, but in order to know what God says. – [Ed 189.1]

We should come with reverence to the study of the Bible, feeling that we are in the presence of God. All lightness and trifling should be laid aside. While some portions of the word are easily understood, the true meaning of other parts is not so readily discerned. There must be (1)patient study and (2)meditation and (3)earnest prayer. Every student, as he opens the Scriptures, should ask for the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit; and the promise is sure that it will be given. The spirit in which you come to the investigation of the Scriptures will determine the character of the assistant at your side. Angels from the world of light will be with those who in humility of heart seek for divine guidance. But if the Bible is opened with irreverence, with a feeling of self-sufficiency, if the heart is filled with prejudice, Satan is beside you, and he will set the plain statements of God's word in a perverted light. [TM 107.3-108.1]

6) What is the key prerequisite to study?_____

Never should the Bible be studied without prayer. Before opening its pages we should ask for the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit, and it will be given. [SC 91]

7) The Holy Spirit has another work, what is it?_____ John 16:13

8) Why does God want to teach us His way?_____Psalm 86:11

Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. [2 Tim 3:7]

9) Why don't most people understand and experience the Bible in the way they should?

_____John 7:16-17, John 13:17

And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness. [2 Thess 2:10-12]

Those who walk in obedience will know what truth is...In order to know the truth, we must be willing to obey. [OHC 16.7]

Whoever is with singleness of purpose seeking to do God's will, earnestly heeding the light already given, will receive greater light; to that soul some star of heavenly radiance will be sent to guide him into all truth. – [Mar 17.4] Additional reading [SC 110-111]

The purpose of knowing is to do:

Prov 22:3, Rev 12:9, Acts 26:26-28, Luke 18:34, Eze 33:30-33

10) Point #3 – _____! Ezra 7:10, 2 Tim 2:2

Let the youth advance as fast and as far as they can in the acquisition of knowledge. Let their field of study be as broad as their powers can compass. And, as they learn, let them impart their knowledge. It is thus that their minds will acquire discipline and power. It is the use they make of knowledge that determines the value of their education. ...To spend a long time in study, with no effort to impart what is gained, often proves a hindrance rather than a help to real development. In both the home and the school it should be the student's effort to learn how to study and how to impart the knowledge gained. Whatever his calling, he is to be both a learner and a teacher as long as life shall last. [MH 402.2]

Prov 11:25

He who begins with a little knowledge, in a humble way, and tells what he knows, while seeking diligently for further knowledge, will find the whole heavenly treasure awaiting his demand. The more he seeks to impart light, the more light he will receive. The more one tries to explain the word of God to others, with a love for souls, the plainer it becomes to himself. The more we use our knowledge and exercise our powers, the more knowledge and power we shall have. [COL 354.1]

Truth that is not lived, that is not imparted, loses its life-giving power, its healing virtue. Its blessing can be retained only as it is shared. [MH 148.4]

Must share in the right spirit!

Job 6:25, 1 Pet 3:15, 2 Cor 13:10, Acts 20:26-28,31

Jesus did not suppress one word of truth, but He uttered it always in love. He exercised the greatest tact and thoughtful, kind attention in His intercourse with the people. He was never rude, never needlessly spoke a severe word, never gave needless pain to a sensitive soul. He did not censure human weakness. He spoke the truth, but always in love. He denounced hypocrisy, unbelief, and iniquity; but tears were in His voice as He uttered His scathing rebukes. [SC 12.1] Eph 4:15

There should never be debating!

Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will: The one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely...But the other of love... [Phil 1:15-17]

Let nothing [be done] through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. [Phil 2:3]

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have [the gift of] prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. [1 Cor 13:1-3]

Point #4 - Fill in the blank.

11) _____ 2 Pet 3:15-16

12) _____: Deut 29:29, John 20:30-31, John 21:25

13) _____: Heb 13:9, Acts 20:30, Rom 16:17

How do we receive new truth?

There are a thousand temptations in disguise prepared for those who have the light of truth; and the only safety for any of us is in receiving no new doctrine, no new interpretation of the Scriptures, without first submitting it to brethren of experience. Lay it before them in a humble, teachable spirit, with earnest prayer; and if they see no light in it, yield to their judgment; for "in the multitude of counselors there is safety." [5T 293.1]

Eph 4:8,11-14, Psalm 119:24

HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE – **THEME**

MEMORY GEM: Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth – 2 Tim 2:15

3M – Mindset, Motive & Method

Circle the correct answer:

1) Did the Jews in the time of Christ study the Bible? Yes / No

2) Did they recognize Christ? Yes / No
{Luke 4:16-21, 28-30, John 5:16-18, 39-40}

3) Why/Why not? _____ Prov 15:28

But there is but little benefit derived from a hasty reading of the Scriptures. One may read the whole Bible through and yet fail to see its beauty or comprehend its deep and hidden meaning. One passage studied until its significance is clear to the mind and its relation to the plan of salvation is evident, is of more value than the perusal of many chapters with no definite purpose in view and no positive instruction gained. ISC 90.2]

4) What did Philip share with Nathanael? _____ John 1:45

5) Did Jesus find Himself in Scripture? Yes/ No
{Luke 24:27, 44-45, Acts 28:23, Acts 4:12}

Christ, His character and work, is the center and circumference of all truth. He is the chain upon which the jewels of doctrine are linked. In Him is found the complete system of truth. – [OHC 16.7]

Examples of identifying the theme: Numbers 16:44-50, 1 Chronicles 21

6) List the Benefits of understanding the theme:

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____

The Lord created man out of the dust of the earth. He made Adam a partaker of His life, His nature. There was breathed into him the breath of the Almighty, and he became a living soul. Adam was perfect in form—strong, comely, pure, bearing the image of his Maker. God gave him a companion, a wife, to share with him the beauties of nature. – [10MR 326.4]

Gen 1:26-27, Gen 2:7, Gen 5:1-3

7) Did man lose his form? Yes/No

8) If he lost his form what does he need? _____
{Lev 26:23-24, Jer 18:1-6}

When Adam came from the Creator's hand, he bore, in his physical, mental, and spiritual nature, a likeness to his Maker. "God created man in His own image" (Genesis 1:27), and it was His purpose that the longer man lived the more fully he should reveal this image--the more fully reflect the glory of the Creator. ...But by disobedience this was forfeited. Through sin the divine likeness was marred, and well-nigh obliterated. Man's physical powers were weakened, his mental capacity was lessened, his spiritual vision dimmed. He had become subject to death. ...Yet the race was not left without hope. By infinite love and mercy the PLAN OF SALVATION had been devised, and a life of probation was granted. To restore in man the image of his Maker, to bring him back to the perfection in which he was created, to promote the development of body, mind, and soul, that the divine purpose in his creation might be realized--this was to be the work of redemption. This is the object of education, the great object of life. [Ed 15.2]

The central theme of the Bible, the theme about which every other in the whole book clusters, is the redemption plan, the restoration in the human soul of the image of God. From the first intimation of hope in the sentence pronounced in Eden to that last glorious promise of the Revelation, "They shall see His face; and His name shall be in their foreheads" (Revelation 22:4), the burden of every book and every passage of the Bible is the unfolding of this wondrous theme,—man's uplifting,—the power of God, "which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 15:57. He who grasps this thought has before him an infinite field for study. He has the key that will unlock to him the whole treasure house of God's word. — [Ed 125-126] — Gal 2:15-21

9) What four things are scripture profitable for? 2 Tim 3:16-17

Scripture is profitable for:

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____

10) What kind of wisdom does the Scriptures offer? _____ 2 Tim 3:15

The Bible is its own expositor. Scripture is to be compared with scripture. The student should learn to view the word as a whole, and to see the relation of its parts. He should gain a knowledge of its grand central theme, of God's original purpose for the world, of the rise of the great controversy, and of the work of redemption. He should understand the nature of the two principles that are contending for supremacy, and should learn to trace their working through the records of history and prophecy, to the great consummation. He should see how this controversy enters into every phase of human experience; how in every act of life he himself reveals the one or the other of the two antagonistic motives; and how, whether he will or not, he is even now deciding upon which side of the controversy he will be found. — [Ed 190.2]

Luke 16:13, Matt 12:30, Rom 6:16

What is the climax of the theme? _____ Rev 22:4, 1 John 3:2

HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE – THE METHOD

3M – Mindset, Motive & Method

God will arouse His people; if other means fail, heresies will come in among them, which will sift them, separating the chaff from the wheat. The Lord calls upon all who believe His word to awake out of sleep. Precious light has come, appropriate for this time. It is Bible truth, showing the perils that are right upon us. This light should lead us to a diligent study of the Scriptures and a most critical examination of the positions which we hold God would have all the bearings and positions of truth thoroughly and perseveringly searched, with prayer and fasting. Believers are not to rest in suppositions and ill-defined ideas of what constitutes truth. Their faith must be firmly founded upon the word of God so that when the testing time shall come and they are brought before councils to answer for their faith they may be able to give a reason for the hope that is in them, with meekness and fear. – [5T 707.3] – 1 Corinthians 11:19

"Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life." Every position of truth taken by our people will bear the criticism of the greatest minds; the highest of the world's great men will be brought in contact with truth, and therefore every position we take should be critically examined and tested by the Scriptures. Now we seem to be unnoticed, but this will not always be. Movements are at work to bring us to the front, and if our theories of truth can be picked to pieces by historians or the world's greatest men, it will be done. We must individually know for ourselves what is truth, and be prepared to give a reason of the hope that we have with meekness and fear, not in a proud, boasting, self-sufficiency, but with the spirit of Christ. We are nearing the time when we shall stand individually alone to answer for our belief. [Ev 69] – Ezekiel 14:14

THE FIRST PRINCIPLE IN STUDYING THE BIBLE IS TO HAVE THE RIGHT BIBLE

Heb 9:12, Luke 9:56, Matt 18:11, Matt 9:13, Act 8:37

Precept Upon Precept, Line Upon Line

The Bible is its own expositor. Scripture is to be compared with scripture. The student should learn to view the word as a whole, and to see the relation of its parts. [Ed 190.2]

The Bible is its own interpreter. With beautiful simplicity one portion connects itself with the truth of another portion, until the whole Bible is blended in one harmonious whole. Light flashes forth from one text to illuminate some portion of the Word that has seemed more obscure. [OHC 207.5]

Even though written by at least thirty-six different authors among whom were kings, farmers, lawyers, generals, fishermen, ministers, priests, a tax collector, a doctor, some rich and some poor, stretching over a period of 1,600 years, yet the Bible is one book because God was the author. – 2 Peter 1:21

Facts About The Bible:

Books: 66	Chapters: 1,189
Verses: 31,102	Words: 783,137
Letters: 3,116,480	Promises: 1,260
English Words: 12,143	Authors: 40

Yet they are all saying the same thing!

William Miller: After two years of careful investigation, he was fully satisfied, that the Bible is its own interpreter; that it is a system of revealed truths so clearly and simply given that the wayfaring man, though a fool, need not err therein; that "all Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness;" [2 Timothy 3:16.] that "prophecy came not in old time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost;" [2 Peter 1:21.] that it was written "for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope." [Romans 15:4.] [4SP 205.1]

Isa 28:9-10, 1 Cor 2:13

STUDY METHOD - Proverbs 25:4

Take away the _____ from the _____, and there shall come forth a
_____ for the _____ - Proverbs 25:4

ORIGINAL LANGUAGE

Hosea 4:3 - Languish = _____

Gen 1:28 - Replenish = _____

Gen 6:4 - Giants = _____

CONTEXTUAL Reading/Study

INTERPRETATION VS. APPLICATION

TPOLOGY

1 Cor 10:11 = TYPOS=TYPES

Examples of Typology:

Children of Israel a type of God's last day remnant

Genesis- Sin and Bondage

Exodus - Deliverance from sin and the law given

Leviticus - Sanctuary and plan of redemption

Numbers - The people are numbered (144,000)

Deuteronomy - Prepared to enter the Promised Land

FIRST & SECOND APPLICATION - 1 Cor 15:46

Mal 4:5-6

2 Kings 1:3 _____

Luke 1:11,15-17 _____

Matt 17:10-13

Joel 2:28-32 _____

LIFE LESSONS

Luke 8:9-15

Matt 25 {COL 405}

ALLEGORY

Luke 8:9-15
Matt 25 [COL 405]

LAW OF FIRST MENTION

Matt 16:16-18
Deut 32:4
Exodus 17:6/1 Cor 10:4

TWO TO THREE WITNESSES

Rev 11:3
2 Cor 13:1

HEBREW PARALLELISM

Psalms 119:105
Rom 4:11
Job 27:3

METHODS OF STUDY

- Reading Through Bible
- Read with the Conflict Series
- Contextual Study
- Bible Study Guide

BOOKS & TOOLS

- Spirit of Prophecy Books
- Bible Handbook - Haskell
- Studying Together - Finley
- Answers to Difficult Bible Text - Crews
- 32 Booklets - Crews
- Answers to Objections - F.D. Nichol
- EGW Software

TOPICAL STUDIES:

- Prophecy
- Sanctuary/Redemption
- The Gospels
- The 28 Fundamental Beliefs

- Strong's Concordance
- Smiths/Easton's Bible Dictionary
- Treasury of Scriptural Knowledge
- BLB (Blue Letter Bible)
- Bible Manners and Customs
- EGW Scriptural Index