

## *Study to Show Thyself Approved*

**2 Timothy 2:15** Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

### **INTRODUCTION:**

Soon we will be making resolutions. They should be intended to make us better or more *fruitful*. One of the most profitable we can make is to *study* the Bible each day. Through it we receive...

1. God's approval, 2 Tim. 2:15.
2. Equipping for the Christian life.

**2 Timothy 3:14-17** But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned *them*; **15** And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. **16** All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: **17** That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

### **DISCUSSION:**

#### **Study the Bible as the *Word of God*.**

A. It is God's *specific* revelation.

1. **Psa 19**, begins with God's general revelation of Himself in nature and continues with the specific revelation in the Scriptures.
2. The general revelation of God reveals how and why we are condemned but not how or why God saves us.

**Romans 1:18-20** For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; **19** Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed *it* unto them. **20** For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

**Romans 1:16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

**1 Corinthians 15:1-4** Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; **2** By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. **3** For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; **4** And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day

according to the scriptures:

**Romans 5:6-8** For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. **7** For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. **8** But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

B. It is for our *good*.

**Psalms 119:103** How sweet are thy words unto my taste! *yea, sweeter* than honey to my mouth!

**Jeremiah 15:16** Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.

**1 Peter 2:2** As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

C. It is never out of date.

1. God does not change

**Psalms 102:27** But thou *art* the same, and thy years shall have no end.

**Hebrews 1:12** And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.

**James 1:17** Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

2. His Word does not change or go out of style.

**Psalms 33:11** The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

**Psalms 119:89** For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.

### **Make up your mind to *Study* the Bible.**

A. There is a difference between reading and studying. The word translated *study* in the KJV in 2 Tim. 2:15 actually means “Work hard” or “be very diligent”.

B. There will be a test on the material! “*Are we going to be tested on this?*” usually means “*How hard to I need to work at learning it?*”

**John 5:27** And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man.

**John 12:48** He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.

C. “*But it's hard..*” No worries. You have the rest of your *life*. We don't graduate from being a Bible student.

**Make use of technology and good tools.**

A. It's never been more accessible. Technology has become more and more affordable and accessible. DVD's, cd's, downloadable audio files, cassette tapes, internet (don't have it at home? Go to the library), online libraries, computer programs.

1. Balancing the Sword – reading schedule

2. Church library

B. Discipline yourself, learn to say no.

1. The technology that saves us time hasn't necessarily *given* us any more time. With more room in the backpack, we stuff more *stuff* in.

**CONCLUSION**

In the next few weeks as you sit down to reflect upon the past year and plan the new year, remember that the most important thing you can do is to plan to spend quality time in **Bible Study**.