

Why Study the Scripture?

1. For God's Glory: Corinthians 10:31 Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

2. To know and understand God's will: Ephesians 5:17 Therefore *do not be* unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

- The imperative mood corresponds to the English imperative, and expresses a command to the hearer to perform a certain action by the order and authority of the one commanding. Thus, Jesus' phrase, "Repent ye, and believe the gospel" (Mk.1:15) is not at all an "invitation," but an absolute command requiring full obedience on the part of all hearers.

3. To strengthen my relationship with God.: John 14:20 "At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. 21 "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."

- If you want to form a relationship with someone, you have to get to know them. The best way to get to know God is through His word.

4. To grow spiritually: 1 Corinthians 3:1 And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ. 2 I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able;

- Psalm 1:3 He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.

5. To minister to others: Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

- How can you teach if you don't know???

6. It is a delight to the Believer: Psalm 1:1 Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; 2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.

- Job 23:12 I have not departed from the commandment of His lips; I have treasured the words of His mouth More than my necessary food.

7. To recognize false teaching: 2 Peter 2:1 But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. 2 And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed.

So, how do you study Scripture??

1. Context: immediate/whole of Scripture

- If it is unclear interpret it by what is clear, **don't use obscure passages to form doctrines!**

2. Consult: Chose a reliable commentary, and a good dictionary or lexicon

- make sure you understand the words being used.

3. Contemplate: pray and think about what you have read.

- Is it consistent with God's character?

4. Conclude: What does it say, what does it mean?

- Remember the Bible interprets itself, there are no mystical interpretations. The Holy Spirit applies the truth of Scripture to your heart, but He doesn't give interpretations, this is a common misunderstanding among Christians.