

# Series: HOW TO GET MORE FROM YOUR BIBLE

## Part 5: UNDERSTANDING THE BIBLE

**Psalms 25:4-5.** *“Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Saviour, and my hope is in you all day long.”*

As we read and study the Word of God we need a teachable heart.

**Psalms 25:8-10a.** *“Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in his ways. He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way. All the ways of the Lord are loving and faithful.”*

**Psalms 25:12-15a.** *“Who, then, is the man that fears the Lord? He will instruct him in the way chosen for him. He will spend his days in prosperity, and his descendants will inherit the land. The Lord confides in those who fear him; he makes his covenant known to them. My eyes are ever on the Lord.”*

Through the Bible, God is revealed to us.

**Psalms 28:7.** *“The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song.”*

### 1. BENEFITS OF UNDERSTANDING THE BIBLE

#### WE LEARN LESSONS FROM OTHER PEOPLE’S EXPERIENCES

**1 Corinthians 10:11.** *“These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfilment of the ages has come.”*

**Romans 15:4.** *“For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.”*

**Hebrews 4:11.** *“Let us therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by following their example of disobedience.”*

#### WE LEARN KEYS FOR SUCCESSFUL LIVING

**James 1:25.** *“But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it – he will be blessed in what he does.”*

**Psalms 1:1-3.** *“Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of the sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.”*

In the Bible we find truth, wisdom, insight, peace, direction, intimacy with God and keys to building healthy relationships in marriage and families.

## **WE ARE EMPOWERED, IMPACTED AND CHANGED**

It is such a rich book. We are commanded to study it.

**Romans 15:4.** *“For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.”*

**Acts 17:11.** *“Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.”*

## **2. WE NEED A PASSION FOR A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF THE BIBLE**

It is not good to be ignorant of the Bible.

**Zechariah 7:11.** *“But they refused to pay attention; stubbornly they turned their backs and stopped up their ears. They made their hearts as hard as flint and would not listen to the law or to the words that the Lord Almighty had sent by his Spirit through the earlier prophets.”*

**Matthew 13:15.** *“For this people’s heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.”*  
How sad for someone to turn their back on the One who can heal and save them.

**Romans 1:28.** *“Furthermore since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done.”*

We need to have a hunger for the Word of God.

**Colossians 3:16a.** *“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly...”*

**Jeremiah 15:16.** *“When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart’s delight, for I bear your name.”*

**Jeremiah 20:9.** *“But if I say, I will not mention him or speak any more in his name, his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot.”*

### **3. TOOLS TO HELP US UNDERSTAND THE BIBLE**

**2 Peter 1:5.** *“For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith, goodness; and to goodness, knowledge.”*

**Proverbs 23:23.** *Buy the truth and do not sell it; get wisdom, discipline and understanding.”*

- LIFE Journal. By reading the Word and writing down what we think its saying and how we can apply it, we are allowing God’s Word to impact us.

**Proverbs 2:3-5.** *“And if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.”*

There are plenty of tools that help us do this:

- Different versions of the Bible
- Bible Handbook
- Bible Dictionary
- Concordance
- Commentary
- Vine’s Greek Word study
- Bible Atlas

Types of studies we can do:

- Whole Book Study
- Chapter Study
- Verse Study
- Word Study
- Bible Character Study
- Topic Study

## CONCLUSION

***Psalms 119:97-104.*** “Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long. Your commands make me wiser than my enemies, for they are ever with me. I have more insight than all my teachers, for I meditate on your statutes. I have more understanding than the elders, for I obey your precepts. I have kept my feet from every evil path so that I might obey your word. I have not departed from your laws, for you yourself have taught me. How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! I gain understanding from your precepts; therefore I hate very wrong path.”