

Week 2 Bible Study: Why Study the Bible, Part 2

Before knowing the “**how**” of study, we must understand the “**why**”!

Correct **action**, **flows from** correct **thinking**. Many Christians today are **frustrated** with their lack of follow through and success in personal Bible Study. As a result, many Christians are always looking for a new **method** for studying... However, what is really needed is a new **mentality** towards the Word of God! Any **method** will likely work well if the **mentality** is **correct**. And even the best **methods** will likely fail if the **mentality** is **incorrect**. The main reason ‘why’ many Christians aren’t **actively studying** the Word of God...is because they aren’t **thinking accurately** about the Word of God.

Correct reasons for studying the Word of God;

It is my creator’s direct _____ to me.

It is the way I can know the _____ of God himself.

It is the only source of **ultimate** _____.

It will help me _____ the pitfalls in life.

It will show me what is of eternal _____.

It will show me how to make my life _____.

It is for my **ultimate**, _____ and **eternal** _____.

The true and lasting motive for *obeying* God, *servicing* God, *studying* the Word of God... is because those actions are in your and my **best interest**. They are for our **ultimate good** and **eternal joy**.

It is not wrong to seek **your best interest** and **your ultimate good** and **eternal joy**...when you are seeking to find the solution to those needs in GOD! In fact it is very **God honoring**, **God pleasing** and **God glorifying**...because we are admitting that he is the source of our highest joy and greatest self-good!!

Is this concept; “**earnestly seeking our greatest good**” in the instruction of and in obedience to God anywhere else in scripture?

Deuteronomy 4:40

Keep his decrees and commands, which I am giving you today, **so that it may go well with you and your children after you and that you may live long** in the land the LORD your God gives you for all time.

Deuteronomy 5:32-33

So **be careful to do what the LORD your God has commanded you**; do not turn aside to the right or to the left. **Walk in obedience to all that the LORD your God has commanded you, so that it may go well with you and prolong your days** in the land that you will possess. See also: **Deuteronomy 5:16, 12:28**

Hebrew 11:24-26

By faith Moses, when he had grown up, **refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter. He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.** He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ **as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.**

Hebrew 11:32-35

Women received back their dead, raised to life again. **There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection.**

Colossians 3:23-24

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward.

1Corinthians 9:25

Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.

See also: **Matthew 6:2-4, 6:19-20, 19:21, Luke 12:33, Mark 10:29-30, Hebrews 12:1-2**

God will be most glorified, honored and pleased by my Bible Study, when my Bible Study becomes of great value, worth, satisfaction, or reward to me. My Bible Study becomes of great value, worth, or reward to me...When I see my Bible Study as the way I can have ultimate joy & satisfaction. Because it is through my Bible Study that I can know the mind of God...And I was created to take ultimate joy, satisfaction & pleasure in God. Therefore I love the Word of God and can't help but go to it enthusiastically because it is for my eternal joy.

David found this to be true...

You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand. **Psalm 16:11**

The _____ that God makes known is the instruction & guidance in the word of God.

The promised _____ of following the path is true joy and eternal pleasure/satisfaction.

The promised _____ of this reward is the very presence of God and fellowship with Him.

See: **Psalm 119:14-16, 119:20-24, 119:33-35, 119:91-93, 119:97-100, 119:103, 111, 129, 119:162, 165**

David didn't go to God's Word out of _____...but rather out of _____!

David didn't go to God's Word in order to be _____ to God...David went to God's Word in order to find the _____ his heart was longing for.

When God becomes our ultimate pleasure/treasure/ joy...God is most glorified in us. And when God is glorified in our lives, we have more joy/satisfaction!

You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water. I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory. Because your love is better than life, **my lips will glorify you.** I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands. **I will be fully satisfied** as with the richest of foods. **Psalm 63:1-5**

When God's Word becomes the path on which we can find our ultimate pleasure/treasure/joy... Not only is God glorified, but our study will actually be desirable and sustainable.