

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School—an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing our series on Growing in your relationship with God. Today's topic: THE BIBLE: A GUIDEBOOK FOR LIFE.

1) Why Satan doesn't want you to read the Bible

- a. The Bible exposes the true character of Satan. John 8:44, Revelation 12:7-9, 12, 1 Peter 5:8, etc.
- b. The Bible is a powerful weapon against the enemy. Ephesians 6:17, Matthew 4:1-11
- c. The Bible reveals the true character of God. Lamentations 3:22-23, Zephaniah 3:17, John 3:16-17, etc.

2) Why reading the Bible is important for Christians

- a. 2 Timothy 3:15-17 How does reading the Bible help us grow in a relationship with God? (see also Jeremiah 15:16, Psalm 119:105)
- b. Why should we ask the Holy Spirit to guide us when we read the Bible? 1 Corinthians 2:13-14, John 16:13
- c. Which early Christians set a noble example through a daily reading and study of the Scriptures? Acts 17:10-11
- d. What evidence do you see in the Gospels that Jesus spent significant time hiding the Word of God in His heart? Matthew 4:4, 7, 10, 15:3-4, 7-9, 22:36-40, etc.
- e. When did you come to the realization that reading the Bible would help you grow in your relationship with God?
- f. Today we have many ways to fill our minds with the Word of God. What ways have been most helpful for you? (reading different translations, listening to an audio Bible, a daily Bible reading plan on your phone, etc.)

3) The reliability of the Scriptures

- a. What testimony did Jesus give about the reliability of the Scriptures? John 17:17, 16:13-15, etc.
- b. What testimony did the Apostle Peter give about the reliability of the Scriptures? 2 Peter 1:19-21, Acts 1:16, 2:16-21, etc.
- c. What testimony did the Apostle Paul give about the reliability of the Scriptures? Acts 28:23, 1 Thessalonians 2:13, etc.
- d. What other testimonies in the Scriptures confirm their reliability as the Word of God? 2 Samuel 23:1-3, Psalm 12:6, Proverbs 30:5-6, etc.

4) The primary purpose of the Scriptures

- a. What is the primary purpose of the Scriptures? John 5:39-40, Luke 24:27
- b. Which books of the Bible would you encourage a person to read first? Why?
- c. What words of Jesus recorded in the Gospels are especially meaningful to you?

