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New Song "Bridge" after Session 4, part 2

Introduction

REVIEW:

4 Step Method for Studying the Bible

1. Prayer – interacting with God as we study the Bible. *Entire method is to be "prayer"* as conversation with God about what He has said, allowing the Spirit to guide & interpret.

Ephesians 6:18 (ESV) praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,

- 1. "Prayer" "Lord, guide me to hear Your truth"
- 2. Observation "Lord, what do YOU want me to notice and why?"
- 3. Interpretation "Lord, what are you saying in this scripture?"
- 4. Application "Lord, what do you want me to do in response?"
- **2. Observation:** What does the scripture mean to the original audience?
 - A. Grammatical Matters:
- i. Type of Literature
- ii. Type of statement, "Mood"
 - √ Statement of TRUTH, "Declarative"
 - ✓ Statement of COMMAND, "Imperative" or "Indicative"
 - √ Statement of POSSIBILITY, "Subjunctive"
- iii. Type of Tense past, present, future
- B. Historical Matters:
- i. People , ii. Places, iii. Practices
- **3. Interpretation** "to discover or explain the meaning of"

Intentionally asking and answering specific questions about ONLY 2 or 3 observations. The purpose is to get to know God better and live more aligned with His ways. THREE TYPES OF QUESTIONS:

- A. "What" (Definitional) Questions identify who, what, where, when, how
- B. "Why" (Rational) Questions identify the reason/purpose behind what observed
- C. "So What" (Implicational) Questions what does the use of this term imply or infer?
- **4. Application** putting what we learn into practical action to live in deeper intimacy and greater alignment with God... what I will do by when?

The Purpose of Studying the Bible

- → The Bible is powerful because it is God's Word
- → We must be convinced and committed to the Bible as the Divinely inspired Word of God
- → The purpose of studying the Bible is to know God soul-deep. Knowing the Bible is the means not the point.

The Word of God used by the Spirit of God in a surrendered soul leads to knowing God soul-deep.

Times of Experiencing God Through the Bible

- > Times with others and times alone.
- > Deliberate times of reading and study
- ➤ Moments of need: direction, help, "rescue," provision
- > 24/7 lifestyle as we know the Bible well and walk in step with the Spirit

Essentials of Studying the Bible

- + Regular, unhurried time in conversation with God studying the Bible
- 1 Peter 2:2–3 (ESV) ²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.
- **2 Timothy 2:14–17a (ESV)** ¹⁴Remind them of these things, and charge them before God not to quarrel about words, which does no good, but only ruins the hearers. ¹⁵Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. ¹⁶But avoid irreverent babble, for it will lead people into more and more ungodliness, ¹⁷and their talk will spread like gangrene.

It's conversation: asking questions of another person.

That's where the Bible study tools are used.

+ Approach the Bible with awe, reverence for God. It's "holy ground."

Hebrews 4:12–13 (ESV)

+ Approach the Bible with desire to know God in deep relationship, not just know about God **Matthew 5:6** "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Mark 12:18–27 (ESV)

+ Approach with all-in submission and commitment to do whatever it takes to **obey**

Luke 9:23 (ESV) And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.

Luke 11:28 (ESV) ²⁸But he said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

James 1:22–25 (ESV)

Matthew 7:24–27 (ESV)

* What it looks like to experience God soul deep through the Bible John 4:7–14 (ESV)

John 7:37–39 (ESV)

John 8:31–38 (ESV)

Romans 8:12–17 (ESV)

* What it looks like to have a lifestyle of the Spirit using the Bible to resonate soul deep. Note: we are completely dependent on the Spirit for spiritual understanding John 14:15–31 (ESV)

Romans 8:26–28 (ESV)

Galatians 5:18–26 (ESV)

PRACTICE EXERCISES

TAKEAWAYS

HELPFUL RESOURCES:

- --BlueletterBible.org
- --International Standard Bible Encyclopedia
- --Biblehub.com
- --Dictionaries & Encyclopedias (Biblehub.com and BlueletterBible.com)