







### 8 Things that will be true of His Disciples.

- Disciples believe in Him. John 2:11
- Disciples spend time with Jesus. Jn. 3:22
- Disciples come to Jesus. Mat. 13:36
- Disciples follow Jesus. Mat 8:21-23
- Disciples obey Jesus. Mat. 14:22)
- Disciples are expected to bear fruit. Jn. 15:7-8
- Disciples are taught by Jesus. Lk. 10:23-24
- Disciples fast. Lk. 5:33-35

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# How to start reading the Bible

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There is no right or wrong way to read your Bible. The important thing is that you do it.

A good place to start is to see the value in reading your Bible. If you do not place a high value on it, you will not be faithful to do it.

## Here are some tips to get you started:

- If you are new at reading the Bible a good place to start is the Book of John or one of the other gospel accounts.
- Find the right spot to read your Bible; a place away from distractions and noise.
- Set some time aside every day to spend time in the Word.
- Read the Bible to understand it, not just to get through it.
- Use study aids such as concordances, commentaries, and dictionaries to help you understand the passages better.
- Read difficult passages in context, use other Scriptures to help you interpret Scriptures.
- · Make it a part of your everyday life.

#### 6 Ways to Study the Bible

- Study a topic. Choose a topic and research the entire Bible to find out what has been written about that topic. Topics usually are doctrines, events, places, duties, words or biographies.
- Study a word or words. Find the meaning of the original word or words used in a text. By studying a word's definition, you will understand what is being said. Then compare where and how the word is used throughout the Bible.
- Study a section. When searching for the meaning of a truth or concept in Scripture, use the entire Bible to help you arrive at a proper interpretation.
- Study an entire book. When possible, read a book of the Bible in one sitting. By doing this you can see the total context. When studying a book of the Bible, research the history and customs during the time the book was written. Also research the author and culture.
- Study a verse or verses. Some verses are historical, and others are doctrinal, expository, narrative or descriptive, but all can be applied to our lives. When we concentrate on one verse at a time, we gain insight and appreciation for every aspect of God's Word. Often a verse will stand out to you, meditate on what the Lord is saying to you in it.
- Study a character. Character studies show that God uses people with different talents and gifts. By studying about them, we gain confidence that we too can live for God and be used by Him.

## **Basic Principles of Bible Study**

In his book entitled "Reality Living", Pastor Jeff Adams lists some basic principles of Bible Study:

- Effective Bible study depends upon a correct heart attitude. (Ezekiel 14:1-5)
- All Scripture is to be understood within its proper context. (2 Peter 1:20)
- All Scripture is to be rightly divided. (2 Tim. 2:15)
- The individual words of Scripture are the key to correct understanding. (Proverbs 30:5-6)
- Understanding the Bible is not a matter of private interpretation. (2 Peter 1:20)
- The Bible must be understood by the normal and literal meaning of the words in the context in which you read them.
- The Bible must be understood in the light of God's consistency. (1 Cor.14:40)
- Never violate a clear passage of Scripture with one that is more obscure.
- Never base a doctrine on a question or rhetorical or hypothetical statement. (1 Cor. 13:1:15:29)
- Never base a doctrine on a single verse of Scripture. (2 Cor. 13:1; Isaiah 28:9-10)
- Understanding the Scriptures comes in time through spiritual growth. (1 Cor. 2:11-16)
- God teaches us using similitudes (comparisons) and pictures. (John 15:5)