



# GROWTH POINT

MIDWEEK SERVICE

RICK HOUK | WEDNESDAY EVENING | MAY 15, 2019

**Title:** The Why and How of Bible Study

**Text:** 2 Timothy 2:15

**Introduction:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Quote:** “Now what is food for the inner man? Not prayer, but the Word of God; and here again, not the simple reading of the Word of God, so that it only passes through our minds, just as water passes through a pipe, but considering what we read, pondering it over and applying it to our hearts.”—**George Müller**

**Quote:** “I venture to say that the bulk of Christians spend more time in reading the newspaper than they do reading the Word of God.”—**Charles Spurgeon**

**Quote:** “Merely reading the Bible is no use at all without we study it thoroughly, and hunt it through, as it were, for some great truth.”—**Dwight Moody**

## I. \_\_\_\_\_ Study the Bible?

### A. It Is Essential to \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ

*Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, as newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: if so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious. (1 Peter 2:1–3)*

**Quote:** “The Bible was written not to satisfy your curiosity but to help you conform to Christ’s image. Not to make you a smarter sinner but to make you like the Saviour. Not to fill your head with a collection of biblical facts but to transform your life.”—**Howard Hendricks**

*And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. (Romans 12:2)*

### B. It Is Essential for us to \_\_\_\_\_ an Answer

*But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: (1 Peter 3:15)*

## C. It Is Essential for Determining our \_\_\_\_\_ and Behavior

*All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. (2 Timothy 3:16–17)*

1. For Reproof
2. For Correction
3. For Instruction

**Quote:** “It is tragic to go through our days making Christ the subject of our study but not the sustenance of our souls.”—**Vance Havner**

## II. \_\_\_\_\_ to Study the Bible

### A. A Pattern and \_\_\_\_\_

1. Taking the right steps in the right order will guarantee a right result

*Let all things be done decently and in order. (1 Corinthians 14:40)*

2. Taking the same steps each time—developing a habit or path in Bible study produces consistency

### B. \_\_\_\_\_ Is the Key

**Definition of Observation:** the act or faculty of taking notice

**Three Steps in Observation:**

1. Seeing with the eye
2. Perception with mind
3. Response with the heart

### C. Begin with Understanding the \_\_\_\_\_

1. Read it prayerfully.

*Which things also we speak, not in the words which man’s wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. (1 Corinthians 2:13–14)*

2. Read it thoughtfully.
3. Read it repeatedly.
4. Read it patiently.

5. Read it selectively.

- **Who?**
- **What?**
- **Where?**
- **When?**
- **Why?**
- **Wherefore?**

*But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: for he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed. (James 1:22–25)*

**Ask questions that will help you to apply what you read and studied.**

- 1) If It Is a Command...Obey it!
- 2) If It Is a Promise...Claim it!
- 3) If It Is a Warning...Heed it!
- 4) If It Is a Principle...Apply it!
- 5) If It Is a Sin...Forsake it!
- 6) If It Is an Instruction...Practice it!
- 7) If It Is a Truth...Believe it!

## **D. Understand the Word** \_\_\_\_\_

1. **A term is a given word as it is used in a given context.**
2. **Define the terms that you do not know or understand.**
3. **What about those “thee’s” and “thou’s”**

**Thou**—nominative pronouns “*Thou* shalt not kill” “*Thy* name is written in the book of life.”

**Thee**—objective pronoun—I gave *thee* the word. I spoke to *thee*.

**Thine** —possessive pronoun

**Thy**—possessive adjective

**Quote:** “A verse must be read often, and re-read and read again before the wondrous message of love and power that God has put into begins to appear.

Words must be turned over and over in the mind before their full force and beauty takes possession of us. One must look a long time at the great masterpieces of art to appreciate their beauty and understand their meaning, and so one must look a long time at the great verses of the Bible to appreciate their beauty and understand their meaning.”—**R. A. Torrey**

**E. Look in the Passage for Units of** \_\_\_\_\_

**Four Things to Look for:**

- 1. Things that Are Emphasized**
- 2. Things that Are Repeated**
- 3. Things that Are Related**
- 4. Things that Are Alike and Unlike**

**Conclusion:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Quote:** “In what way shall we attain to this settled happiness of soul? How shall we learn to enjoy God? How shall we obtain such an all-sufficient soul-satisfying portion in Him as shall enable us to let go the things this world as vain and worthless in comparison? I answer, this happiness is to be obtained through the study of Holy Scriptures. God has therein revealed Himself unto us in the face of Jesus Christ.”—**George Müller**

