

Growing in the Knowledge of God: How to Study the Bible

Session 2: Add to Your Faith: Studying the Word of God – Approach

Session 2 Outline

Key Passage: 2 Peter 1:5-11

I. Reasons for Studying God's Word

- A. Purpose: To Grow in Our Faith (v. 5)
- B. Command: Make Every Effort (vv. 5,10)
- C. Promise: You Will Not Fail (vv. 8-11)

II. Philosophical Approaches to Studying God's Word

- A. Hermeneutics
- B. Exegesis vs. Eisegesis
- C. God's Revealed Word or Man's Word about God

III. Steps to Properly Study God's Word

A. Context – What Does This Passage Mean?

- 1. Textual Context
- 2. Historical/Cultural Context
- 3. Scriptural Context

B. Doctrine – What Does This Passage Teach?

- 1. Law/Gospel
- 2. Scripture Interprets Scripture
- 3. All Scripture Points to Christ

C. Application – How Does This Passage Change Me?

- 1. My Faith – My Understanding of God & His Work
- 2. My Relationship with God
- 3. My Relationship with Others

IV. Tools to Study God's Word

- A. Learn to Use Your Bible
- B. Other Books – Concordances, Commentaries, Catechisms, Creeds, and Confessions
- C. Electronic Resources