

How to Study Christ BEYOND 4th Grade Sunday School!

1. BEG God (Pray) and ask Him to guide you by the Holy Spirit!
Make knowing and understanding Jesus more a burning desire. **He** will teach you all things. It seems from Scripture that Jesus is the favorite subject of the Holy Spirit! It is His task to teach and explain Christ to believers! He will show you “all things”! John 14:26; 15:26; 16:13
2. BEG God (Pray) for an open, soft, and obedient heart!
Come committed to obey and willing to change. Have a teachable spirit. John 14:15, 21; 15:10; Matt. 7:24
A obedience to God is the sign of a wise woman.
3. Beg God (Pray) for willingness to preserver and work hard in your study!
“Search the scriptures” John 5:39
“Study to show thyself approved unto God.” II Tim. 2:15
Slothful and Lazy!?! Hebrews 5:11-14
4. Have no time table, only a deep desire for knowledge, personal growth and change.
No – 12 week study, 1 year and done; Just gain knowledge and understanding. Let the Holy Spirit do His work. Go slow enough and careful enough to let the Holy Spirit be heard.
5. Collect helps and resources – hard copies, online, Harmonies of the Gospel, study Bibles, commentaries
6. Get a notebook; paper punch; and a nice place to study!
7. Set time aside each week for study.
Be protective to this time. Schedule Bible study as you would other daily and weekly tasks. As you schedule exercise, work, sleep, recreation----schedule Bible study! Psalm 19:7-11
8. Study one incident of the life of Christ at a time.
 - Follow a systematic chart of the Life of Jesus – Harmony of the Gospels; book on the life of Christ----there are many, they vary slightly but follow one through Christ’s life.
“A periodic, buffet type lessons and sermons on Christ and His teaching will lack the background and flow God willed. --just because of time restraints-- So much can be gained from studying Christ in the order He lived it!”
 - Read all parallel Gospel passages - First thing read all the parallel passages found for each incident. A study Bible or Harmony of the Gospel will give you those passages. Do you know?---- How many books have the birth of Christ? (2) Which do not? (Matthew, John) What is the first incident found in all four Gospels? (Ministry of John the Baptist) How many books record the first miracle of Christ? (1) What miracle is recorded in all four Gospels? (Feeding of the 5000)

- Read through each book and resource you have collected taking notes. Look for facts, word meanings, customs or life during the time of Christ, Christ's central focus, and who Christ was addressing. Each one of these points is vital to a better understanding of Christ. Become interested in details, a student of the original languages of the Bible, Jewish customs and traditions. Be very aware of those listening to Christ and who were a part of the multitudes. That knowledge is important when interrupting the application of Jesus' words. For you to carefully go through each of these areas takes time and effort. Don't be in a hurry.

- Keep parables and healings within the context and flow of the incidents and order of Christ's life.
 - Christ gives **parable** to teach one main point. Don't get stuck on the details. Look at what Christ was teaching and how the parable supports His lesson. Don't read anything more in then what supports the lesson of Christ in the text.
 - Healings** were done as a sign of who Christ was. Jesus healed out of compassion. Enjoy the reactions of the healed, the love and compassion of Christ and let them build your faith as it did His disciples and the multitudes.
 - His **words and teachings** were never wasted. Draw to him, listen, let His life build your faith
 - Condemnations** of Religious Leaders should cause us to check our own life and attitudes.

- Make an outline of the incident and plug in the information you have found in an orderly fashion!
 - Write out verses; put in order of events; outline

9. ALWAYS – Make an Application to Me section. Be looking for this information during your study!
 Pray and BEG God to change you and make you more like the One you are studying!

10. Ask others to study Jesus with you! What a wonderful, basic topic for Bible Study. Don't be afraid to ask an unbeliever to study Christ with you. It is the knowledge of Him that brings one to salvation!

*“According as his divine **power** hath given unto us **all things that pertain unto life and godliness**, through the **knowledge of him** that hath called us to glory and virtue:” II Peter 1:3*

Let's Get Started!