How To Study the Bible Schedule

Class 1: The Inductive Study Method Pt 1	May 21, 2023
Class 2: The Inductive Study Method Pt 2	May 28, 2023
Class 3: Studying the Old and New Testaments	June 04, 2023
Class 4: The Bible's Genres	June 11, 2023
Class 5: Using Commentaries & Other Bible Study Tools	June 18, 2023
Class 6: Studying Difficult Passages and Familiar Passages	June 25, 2023

Further Questions?
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Class—How to Study the Bible
Class 2: Inductive Bible Study, Part 2

"But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like." (James 1:22-24)

Application:

Questions to ask of a passage in the Bible:

1. Does it point out sin in my life?
2. What assumptions does it have that I don't share?
3. Is there a command to obey in this passage?
4. Is there an encouragement for me in this text?
5. Is there a promise for me?
6. Does it teach me something about God?
7. Does it teach me something about myself?
8. What evidence for my faith does it give me?
9. What will I do differently today because of this text?
10. How can I model/share/teach this truth to encourage others?
11. How could my family or church apply this text?

Guidelines to Follow

1. Pray

2. Think

3. Write

4. Talk

5. Listen

Practice: Philippians 2.19-30

19 I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, that I also may be cheered
when I receive news about you. 20 I have no one else like him, who takes a genuine
interest in your welfare. 21 For everyone looks out for his own interests, not those of
Jesus Christ. 22 But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son
with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel. 23 I hope, therefore,
to send him as soon as I see how things go with me. 24 And I am confident in the
Lord that I myself will come soon.

25 But I think it is necessary to send back to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow
worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger, whom you sent to take care
of my needs. 26 For he longs for all of you and is distressed because you heard he
was ill. 27 Indeed he was ill, and almost died. But God had mercy on him, and not
on him only but also on me, to spare me sorrow upon sorrow. 28 Therefore I am all
the more eager to send him, so that when you see him again you may be glad and I
may have less anxiety. 29 Welcome him in the Lord with great joy, and honor men
like him, 30 because he almost died for the work of Christ, risking his life to make
up for the help you could not give me.

Two Examples of Unity in Service from 1-2.18

Timothy
- "genuinely concerned for your welfare"
- seeks after the interests of Jesus Christ (cf. 2.4)
- serves as a "son" with Paul "in the gospel" (cf. 2.1-5)

Epaphroditus
- "brother ... fellow worker ... fellow soldier"
- "messenger" and "minister" to Paul
- "longing" for the Philippian Church (cf. Paul's heart in 1.3-8)
- Concerned over their concern
- worthy of honor because, "he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life" to serve Paul

= hope, joy, cheer, etc.

In this passage, Paul's "joy" is tied to the faithful service of others (vss 19, 28, & 29)

Paul looks for encouragement from the growth/ blessings of the Philippian Church

19 I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by news of you. 20 For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. 21 For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. 22 But you know Timothy's proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel. 23 I hope therefore to send him just as soon as I see how it will go with me, 24 and I trust in the Lord that shortly I myself will come also.

"they" = those who are motivated by "rivalry or conceit" (cf. 1.15-16)

worth = service

Paul genuinely seems to believe he will be released (cf. 1.25)

25 I have thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need, 26 for he has been longing for you all and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. 27 Indeed he was ill, near to death. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. 28 I am the more eager to send him, therefore, that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious. 29 So receive him in the Lord with all joy, and honor such men, 30 for he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me.

shepherds "long" for the good of their flocks and seek to protect them from worry ... **Elder this way**

False Motivations for Preaching
- not "genuinely concerned for your welfare"
- "seek their own interests"
- motivated by "rivalry or conceit"

Four Roles
- "brother": fellowship in the Gospel
- "worker": advancing the Gospel
- "soldier": defending the Gospel
- "messenger": sharing the Gospel
- "minister": living the Gospel

"For whoever wants to save his life will loose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it." (Matt. 16.25)

"Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church ..." (Colossians 1.24)

Epaphroditus' Christ-like ministry to Paul and the Church

Bottom Line: Timothy and Epaphroditus are living examples of those who preach the gospel "from good will" ... "out of love" (1.15); live "worthy of the gospel" ... stand "firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel" (1.27); "...In humility count others more significant than [themselves]" (2.3); and who "in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation ... shine as lights in the world" (2.15)