

THE IMPORTANCE OF BIBLE CLASS.

1/1/2023 AM

INTRO.:

A. Read text: **2 Pet. 3:18.**

B. Regarding the text:

1. This lesson is a needed study - ***Touches us*** here at Rendon.
2. Several things come to mind:
 - 1) Everyone must continue to grow and develop by being taught: (**2 Pet. 3:18**)
“But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ...” **GROW** = to cause to grow (Thayer’s Greek Definitions).
 - 2) We should look forward to being in Bible class.
3. When you are not in Bible class it discourages others.

C. In this lesson I hope we all will ***rethink the value*** of our Bible Classes.

DISCUSSION: BIBLE CLASSES ARE IMPORTANT BECAUSE...

I. THEY ARE A SPECIAL TIME TO FEED THE SOUL.

A. Today we will feed our physical body. Plans are usually made ahead of time!

B. What about the inner man - the spiritual man (**2 Cor. 4:16; Rom. 12:2**).

C. The soul, the inner man needs nourishment as well.

1. This nourishment is found ONLY in the Bible (**1 Peter 2:2; John 6:48, 63**).
2. In Bible classes, the Word of God can only be fed to those present.
 - 1) The inner man is being nourished and strengthened.
 - 2) This cannot happen unless we are here to partake of this feast.

II. THEY HELP US UNDERSTAND GOD’S WILL FOR US.

A. Sometimes we do not always fully comprehend what we read in the text.

B. From time to time, we all need help in understanding.

1. Peter said that some things were hard to be understood (**2 Pet. 3:16**).
2. In **Acts 8**, the Ethiopian eunuch was reading the prophet Isaiah (**Isaiah 53**).
 - 1) Phillip asked him “Understandest thou what thou readest?” (**Acts 8:30**).
 - 2) The eunuch gave an honest answer: **Acts 8:31** “... How can I except some man should guide me?”
 - 3) Philip joined this man and they had a Bible study!

C. In Bible classes, sometimes topics are discussed that can help us understand things better.

1. Hopefully, we come to a better understanding of verses and topics found in God’s Word.
 - 1) **Psalms 119:104.**
 - 2) **Proverbs 3:13.**
2. Examples:
 - 1) **Job 13:1.**
 - 2) **Acts 2:37.**
 - 3) **Acts 10:33.**

D. Who does not need more Bible STUDIES?

III. BIBLE CLASSES HELPS US EXAMINE OURSELVES.

A. When we understand – we can see ourselves clearly.

B. God wants us to constantly examine ourselves:

1. **2 Corinthians 13:5.**
2. **James 1:22-25.**

C. As topics are discussed in Bible Classes, we learn from others who have studied and have experienced things.

IV. BIBLE CLASS IS A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD AND WITH OUR BRETHREN.

A. We call the Bible the Word of God.

1. The Bible is "God breathed" (inspired) (**2 Tim. 3:16-17**).
2. So, as we read from the Bible, God is speaking to us.

B. What if we announced that next Sunday God would be here personally to speak to us during the Bible class hour? Would you make arrangements to be here?

C. Each Lord's Day, God ***IS*** here.

1. Through His precious Word, He is speaking to us.
2. Our attitude should be: "***I want to be there!***"
3. While we are here, our attitude should be: "***Speak Lord, for thy servant heareth***" (**1 Samuel 3:9-10**).
4. Just think -- God is here even though we do not see Him.
5. Realizing this should cause us to think differently.
 - 1) On Saturday nights, we will be looking forward to being with God.
 - 2) We would be happy to be as part of this special occasion.
6. Love, and respect for God will cause me to say as did the psalmist: **Psalm 122:1**
"I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord."

V. CONCLUSION

A. The Bible class hour involves a very special time.

1. It is a time of spiritual feeding.
2. It is a time for better understanding.
3. It is time for self-examination.
4. It is a time of special fellowship with God and with our brethren.

B. Every Christian ought to mark these two hours off on their personal calendars each week. BIBLE CLASS.

1. I will be there.
2. I will not let other things interfere with this time.