

THE IMPORTANCE OF BIBLE CLASS.

1/29/2023 AM

INTRO.:

A. Read text: 2 Peter 3:18.

B. Regarding the text:

1. This lesson is a needed study - *Touches us*.
2. We must all keep in mind:
 - 1) Each of us must continue to grow and develop by being taught: (2 Peter 3:18: **GROW** = to **cause** to grow (Thayer's Greek Definitions).
 - 2) We should love to be in Bible class.
 - 3) We must not forsake the assembling of the saints (**Hebrews 10:25**).
3. When you are not in Bible class it can discourage others.

C. In our lesson this morning I hope each of us 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. We feed our physical body. Plans are usually made ahead of time!

B. What about the inner man - the spiritual man:

1. **2 Corinthians 4:16.**
2. **Romans 12:2.**

C. The inner man needs nourishment.

1. This nourishment is found ONLY in the Word of God.
 - 1) **John 6:48, 63.**
 - 2) **1 Peter 2:2.**
2. In Bible classes, the Word of God is being fed to those present.
3. **Matthew 5:6.**

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

A. Sometimes we do not always fully understand a Biblical text.

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

1. Peter said that some things are hard to understand (**2 Peter 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!
 - a. He needed answers to his questions.
 - b. From the Bible study he learned of Jesus and what he needed to do to be saved.

C. In Bible classes, sometimes topics are discussed that 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.**
 - 4) **Nehemiah 8:8.**

D. Who does not need more Bible STUDIES?

III. THEY HELP US EXAMINE OURSELVES.

A. When we study, we can see ourselves more clearly.

B. God wants us to continually 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 in life.

IV. THEY PROMOTE FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD AND WITH OUR BRETHREN.

A. We call the Bible the Word of God.

1. The Bible is "God breathed" (inspired **2 Timothy 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 in the Bible class hour? Would you make arrangements to be here?

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

1. Through His 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."***
4. God is here even though we do not see Him.
5. Realizing this should cause us to think differently.
 - 1) On Saturday nights, we should be looking forward to being with God.
 - 2) We should be happy to be a part of this special occasion.
6. Love for God will cause me to say as did the psalmist (**Psalm 122:1**).

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.

C. Questions:

1. Do You Believe that Bible Classes are important?
2. Do you believe that God will excuse you from Bible Classes?
3. Do you attend Bible Classes?