



SERIES TITLE	STUDYING THE BIBLE FOR UNDERSTANDING & PRACTICE
SERIES FOUNDATION SCRIPTURE	John 6:63 HOLMAN CHRISTIAN STANDARD BIBLE (HCSB) <i>The Spirit is the One who gives life. The flesh doesn't help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.</i>
SERIES REFERENCES	<i>How to Study the Bible: Practical Advice for Receiving Light From God's Word</i> Watchman Nee, 1999, Living Stream Ministry (ISBN: 978-0-7363-0407-8) <i>How to Study the Bible</i> Robert M. West, 2007, Barbour Publishing (ISBN: 978-1-59789-706-8) <i>How to Study the Bible</i> Dwight L. Moody, 2017 Updated Edition, Aneko Press (ISBN: 978-1-62245-456-3)
OUR STUDY POINTS FOR THIS LESSON	<p>MAIN STUDY POINT One must settle with oneself that the Word of God is God truly showing Himself to us, and by doing so, He offers us life via the Spirit and infusing our spirits. John 6:60-63</p> <p>PREPARATION PHASE Requirement #1 for Preparation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One must be prepared to study the Word of God. John 4:21-24 / 1 Corinthians 2 / 1 Corinthians 3 / 2 Corinthians 3:18 / Romans 12:1-2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be born again. Must be of the Spirit. Must be spiritual. Requirement #2 for Preparation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One must have a manner/practice of consecration. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hearts are open to receive from God, God's Word. 2 Corinthians 3:12-18 Our spiritual eye must be single. Our focus must be spiritually single. God and God alone. Do you have any conflicts of interest in regards to God? Matthew 6:19-24 One must have a desire and growing practice of continual obedience. John 7:14-17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> God's revelation of His Word is in measure to our obedience. <i>"The more we obey Him, the more light we will receive. Without consecration, we cannot see. Without continual obedience, we cannot continue to see."</i> (Watchman Nee) Requirement #3 for Preparation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One must have both the habit and way of reading the Word. Watchman Nee says, <i>"If a man wants to study the Bible and understand God's Word, he must be experienced in His practice."</i> Hebrews 5:11-14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One must be objective when reading the Word. It keeps us from locking ourselves out from further revelation. 1 Samuel 3:1-10 </p>



<p>OUR STUDY POINTS FOR THIS LESSON</p>	<p>Requirement #3 for Preparation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One must be careful--not careless--in reading the Bible. Words have meaning in the Bible, and we are to pay attention to each one. Hebrews 10:1-18, 32-39 / Hebrews 11:1 HCSB One must govern one's curiosity when reading the Bible. If we do not, we will miss the import of the Word, and what is worth much spiritually will not yield what God desires. Matthew 23:1-25 HCSB <p>Requirement #4 for Preparation: Understand What Holy Spirit Does for Us When Reading the Bible</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holy Spirit desires to reveal His thoughts to us so that we can understand what He is thinking about a verse, passage, or book. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 / 2 Peter 1:20-21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merge our thoughts with Holy Spirit's Consider the main point of a text "the trunk" vs. the "branches" Identify subject text and explanatory text Holy Spirit desires that we understand the facts He has recorded in the Bible. We must understand "basic facts" as Watchman Nee states. Holy Spirit, as we read, guides us to the spirit of what we're reading. Helps us to get to the spirit "behind the thoughts" as this helps our understanding. Helps us to understand the "loud" and "soft" portions of Scripture. 2 Corinthians 1 / Example Scripture Psalm 24 <p>Thoughts on Requirement #4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allowing Holy Spirit to help us when reading and studying the Bible takes some discipline. Satan loves to bombard us when we are in the Word, but we are overcomers. We can train ourselves to block his little, petty maneuvers. Our discipline comes when we allow Holy Spirit to CONSECRATE AND CONCENTRATE us. (I take no credit for this. I heard a deacon say this in a Sunday School video for a church to which I provide services.)
<p>THOUGHTS ON THE LESSON</p>	<p>Holy Spirit is available to us as we study the Bible. Indeed, it is part of His assignment--to reveal the mysteries of the Word to us. He is our Helper in all things if we allow Him to be.</p>