

## IS ANYBODY HUNGRY?

### A Bible Study for the Newly Saved

Man's body needs food and water to live, so does the spiritual part of you. What is the food and water that your spirit needs? In Matthew 4:4, Jesus said man shall not live by bread alone but by every *word* that comes from the mouth of God. Ephesians 5:26 speaks of the "water of the *word*." The Bible is God's word; it is food and water to you. You need it to be healthy in your new life with God. Let's spend some time exploring what makes the Bible so important to you.

If you have a Bible, take the time to look up each Scripture. This is important so that you can see the parts before and after the passage that help determine its meaning. If you don't have a Bible, verses are printed in the right column so that you can still answer the questions. If there is not room to write your answers on this sheet, use a separate piece of paper. The left column lists additional Scripture references that apply to the topic being discussed. Look those up if you want more information. Scriptures provided are from the New International Version (NIV).

Always pray before reading the Word, ask God to show you things about Himself and yourself.

<p>1 Corinthians 2:13</p>	<p>Throughout this study, you will encounter different names for the Bible: Word of God, Scripture, commandments, precepts, prophecy, perfect law. Know that generally they all are referring to the Bible.</p> <p><b>First, let's see what the Bible says about itself. Who wrote the Bible and from whom did they receive inspiration?</b></p> <p><b>2 Peter 1:21</b></p> <p><b>2 Timothy 3:16</b></p> <p><b>The word "God-breathed" in 2 Timothy 3:16, means inspired by God. How much of Scripture is inspired by God?</b></p> <p><b>What is the Scripture good for? What does it do in you and for you? In other words, why was it written?</b></p> <p><b>John 20:31</b></p> <p><b>2 Timothy 3:16-17</b></p> <p><b>Hebrews 4:12</b></p> <p><b>1 Peter 2:2</b></p>	<p><b>2 Peter 1:21</b> For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.</p> <p><b>2 Timothy 3:16-17</b> 16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.</p> <p><b>John 20:31</b> But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.</p> <p><b>Hebrews 4:12</b> For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any two-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.</p> <p><b>1 Peter 2:2-3</b> 2 Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk (of the word), so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, 3 now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.</p> <p><b>Psalm 119:105</b> Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.</p>
<p>Psalm 119:30</p>	<p><b>Psalm 119:105</b></p>	

<p>Daniel 2:22 John 6:13</p>	<p>The Bible is such a big book, and can be a bit overwhelming to think that we can read and understand God's word. How is it possible that each one of us really can, regardless of who we are?</p>	<p><b>Ephesians 1:17</b> I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation so that you may know him better.</p>
<p>1 Corinthians 2:10 1 Corinthians 2:16</p>	<p><b>Paul prayed for Christians in Ephesians 1:17 and Colossians 1:9-10. What did he ask for and why did he ask for it?</b></p> <p><b>Do you think God would answer Paul's prayer for you?</b></p>	<p><b>Colossians 1:9-10</b> 9 ...we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding. 10 And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way, bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God...</p>
<p>Ephesians 1:18-20 In this verse, when Paul prayed that the "eyes of your heart be enlightened," he was asking God to cause the truths about Jesus to be-come clear to us all.</p>	<p><b>Look up these next verses. Who else helps us understand what we read in the Bible?</b></p> <p><b>1 Corinthians 2:11-12</b></p> <p><b>John 14:26</b></p> <p>If God, through the Holy Spirit, is the one who helps us understand what the Word says, then each time we open the Bible to read or study it, we should pray. The same words Paul prayed for you, you can pray for yourself. Ask God to teach you. Ask Him to help you understand what you are reading but also to give you wisdom. Wisdom is knowing how to apply the Bible to your life—knowing how to live out what you just learned.</p>	<p><b>1 Corinthians 2:11-12</b> 11 For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. 12 We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us.</p>
<p>Exodus 19:5 Joel 2:11 Romans 2:13 1 John 2:3-6</p>	<p><b>Compare the one who lives out or obeys God's word to the one who doesn't in the following verses. Note the differences.</b></p> <p><b>Matthew 7:24-27</b></p>	<p><b>John 14:26</b> (Jesus is speaking here.) But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.</p>
<p>John 13:17 Isaiah 48:18</p>	<p><b>James 1:22-25</b></p>	<p><b>Matthew 7:24-27</b> 24 Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall because it had its foundation on the rock. 26 But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. 27 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds</p>
<p>Romans 1:17 Romans 4:1-5 Galatians 2:16 Ephesians 2:8-10 Titus 3:4-5 James 2:14-26</p>	<p><b>From Matthew 7:24 and James 1:22,25. List exactly what it is that God wants you to do with his word.</b></p> <p><b>From Matthew 7:25 and James 1:25. What are the good things that happen to the one who does these things?</b></p>	<p>God is very clear that it is not by good works</p>

John  
14:15-16

1  
Corinthians  
15:10

Romans  
12:3

1 Peter  
1:23  
Isaiah  
55:1-13

that you are saved—it is by believing in Jesus Christ that you are saved. Yet, the book of James tells us that faith without good works is not real faith at all—in other words, if you really love God and He is truly the Lord of your life, it will show up in your actions.

Now, if being obedient came easily, we probably would not find ourselves in the trouble we so often get into. So, if all this talk about obeying the Word is feeling a little heavy, let me share some good news with you.

**Read Philippians 2:13. Who is it that is at work in you?**

**What is He working in you?**

“To will” means the desire to act according to what pleases God. “To act” means the ability to actually do what pleases God. So, you see, God expects us to obey His word, yet He is the one who gives us both the desire and the ability to do it. He knows we can’t do it on our own.

**Read Hebrews 13:20-21. Again, who gives you the ability to live out what you learn in the Bible? What has He equipped you with?**

**According to 2 Peter 1:3. Where do we get everything we need to live a godly life?**

God is looking for a full-time commitment of our body, soul and spirit. But then He turns around and gives us everything we need to make and keep that commitment. All we have to do is let Him.

**According to 2 Peter 1:4. It is through God’s glory and goodness that He has made these promises to help us. Read verse 4—what can you do by believing these promises of God?**

“Believe” is an action word. It is not just something you feel; it is something you live. Faith is a gift from God, and a measure of it has been given to each one of us. It is our choice to activate that faith or not; it is our

blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.

**James 1:22-25**

- 22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.  
23 Anyone who listens to the Word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror  
24 and after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.  
25 But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does.

**Philippians 2:13**

For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.

**Hebrews 13:20-21**

- 20 May the God of peace...  
21 equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ to whom be glory for ever and ever, amen.

**2 Peter 1:3-4**

- 3 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.  
4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

**2 Corinthians 1:20**

- 20 For no matter how many promises God has made, they are “yes” in Christ. And so through him the “Amen”, is spoken by us to the glory of God.  
21 Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us,  
22 set his seal of ownership on

	<p>choice to believe that God is who He says He is and will do what He says He will do—or not to believe. Another way to look at it is found in 2 Corinthians 1:20. God’s promises are <i>always</i> “yes.” It is our responsibility then to add the “amen” which means “so be it.” It is our responsibility to agree with God and allow Him to do the work in our hearts.</p> <p><b>I want you to look up one more word of encouragement concerning the Bible and you. Read Isaiah 55:10-11. What is God’s promise concerning His word in you?</b></p>	<p>us and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.</p> <p><b>Isaiah 55:10-11</b></p> <p>10 As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,</p> <p>11 So is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.</p>
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Oh, friend in Christ, the Bible is the word of God—His message to you. Through it, He is talking to you, encouraging you, answering your questions about how to live your Christian life. Would you be invited to a delicious meal, wonderfully prepared by your loved one, and then not eat, not savor every bite? Is anybody hungry? God has so many things to tell you. Pick up His book daily, read, listen and eat.

Compiled and © by R. McCollam, member of the Community Prison Choir

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