

Growing in CHRIST

REVEAL CHURCH

Growing in Christ
Study No 2:
Getting Started



Getting Started

This study will show you why the Bible is important and necessary to you in your Christian life, and why prayer is essential in your growth.

The answers to the questions in this session can be found in the Bible verses given. It's important to read the verses completely to understand what God is saying to you.



A. The Importance of the Bible

Read 2 Timothy 3:16

1. The word **Scripture** in this verse means the Bible. What does this verse tell us about the Bible?

2. This verse says that the Bible is useful for four things. What are these four things and what do they mean?

Read 2 Timothy 3:17

3. What is the purpose of studying the Bible?

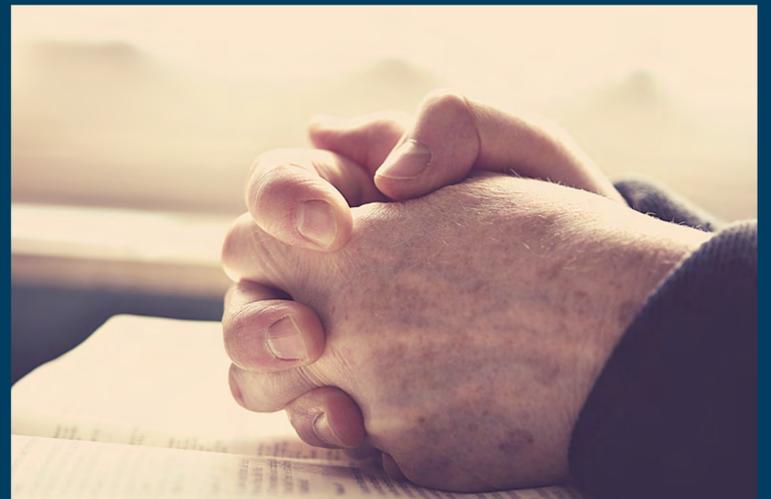
B. The Importance Of Prayer

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:17

4. This verse speaks about prayer. What does it say about prayer and how important it is?

Read 1 Timothy 2:1

5. Petitions and requests are kinds of prayer in which we ask God for things we need. From this verse, would you say that prayer is only asking? Try to give a reason for your answer.



Read 1 Timothy 2:1-2

6. According to these verses, who should we pray for?

Read 1 Timothy 2:8.

7. Should we pray only in Church? What does this verse say?

C. The Habit of Prayer and Bible Reading

Read Hebrews 10:25

8. What does this verse say we should not give up?

C. The Habit of Prayer and Bible Reading

Since we have seen that reading the Bible and praying are important for Christian growth, it would be important to establish a routine for these practices. They are sometimes called disciplines, because we need to discipline ourselves to do them, even though they are for our own good, anyway!

One helpful way to make use of these is to follow a model that others have found helpful, such as the use of S.O.A.P. devotions. This simply means that we devote a part of our day to God using the letters S.O.A.P. to spell out the approach (after all, our devotions is a form of cleaning ourselves up!). Try taking a journal or exercise book to make notes as follows:

1. Read a chapter of the Bible (maybe start with the Gospel of John or the Gospel of Mark so that you can study a story about the life of Jesus. When you are underway, you can get a Bible reading program that will help you to read right through the Bible).

2. Ask God to make one verse stand out that will help you.

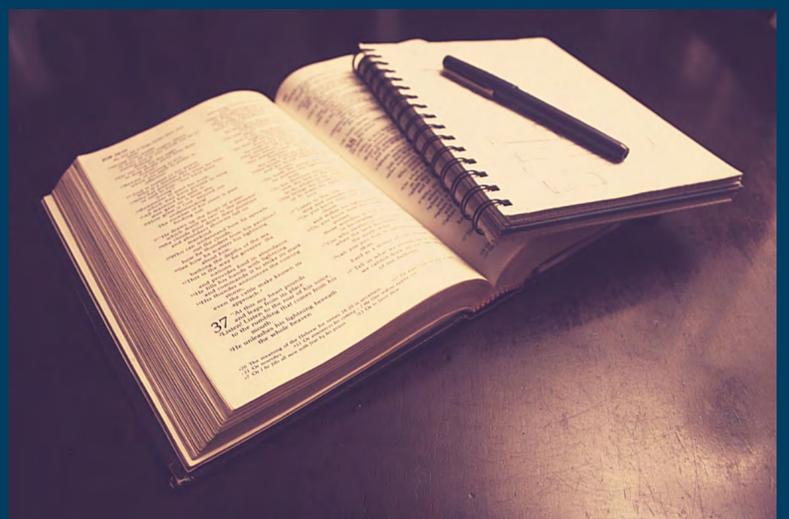
3. Write that one verse of Scripture into your journal.

4. Write an Observation that you have noticed in this verse.

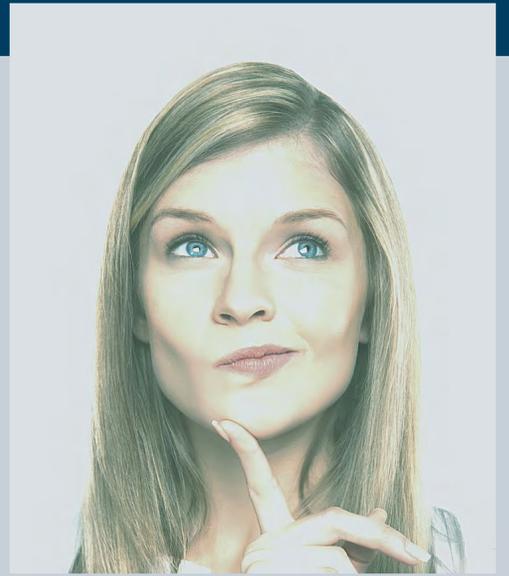
5. Ask God to show how your verse can help you in the way that you live and write this Application into your journal.

6. Write a simple Prayer to God that commits to putting this application into practice.

7. Then close your journal and talk to God. Pray by thanking Him for what He has done for you and asking Him to help you with those things that you will be facing throughout the day. Also ask Him to help you to help others to experience the new life that you have.



A Time to Think



1. How often do you read the Bible?

2. What difficulties (if any) have you found in praying?

5. What steps can you take to make prayer more a part of your life?

6. What part should the Bible and prayer play in our encouraging other Christians?

Summary:

Complete the following statements by selecting the most appropriate answer from those given.

1. The Bible is...

- Just a collection of old writings.
- The Word of God.
- The Word of Man.

2. To be an effective Christian, I should...

- Study the Bible every day.
- Read the Bible once a week.
- Never read the Bible at all.

3. Prayer can be thought of as ...

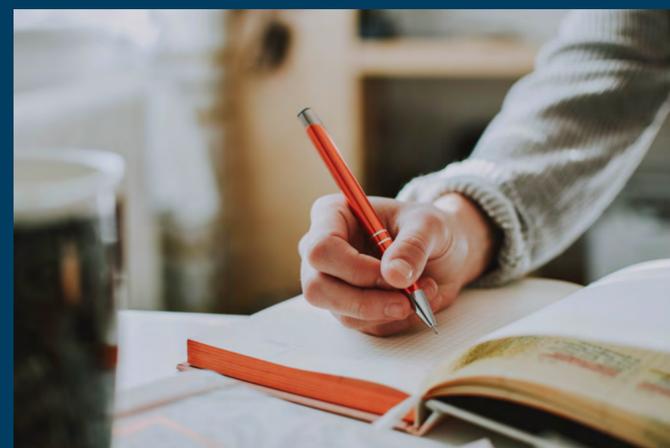
- A waste of time.
- Talking to God regularly.
- Something to do only when you are in trouble.

4. Prayer can be described as...

- Just asking God for what we need.
- Both asking and thanking God.
- A ritual that is practiced in church.

Memory Verse:

Psalm 119:11



"I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you."

In our next session together, we will study what the Bible has to say about **The Church**.

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