

The Keys To Spiritual Growth

Fundamental Principles For A Living Faith

Lesson One: The Christians Attitude Toward The Word of God

Introduction:

1. Paul commended the Christians at Thessalonica saying, "We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith _____ exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other" (2 Thess. 1:3; NKJV).
2. Peter exhorted first century Christians, "but _____ in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Pet. 3:18).
3. What are some of the most basic needs of any plant? _____

Translations Of 2 Thessalonians 1:3 The Thessalonians Faith...

- "Grows exceedingly" (NKJV)
- "Growing abundantly" (ESV)
- "Greatly enlarged" (NASB)
- "Flourishing" (NLT)

4. Among the basic needs is the proper soil.
 - a. "Soil" is symbolic of our Bible hearts or minds and the "kind" of ground matters (Lk. 8:12-15).
 - b. What are the 4 kinds of ground in this parable? _____
 - c. Our heart (or soil) condition matters.
4. In this lesson we'll explore "The Christians Attitude Toward The Word of God"

Discussion:

I. Believing In The Divine Origin Of The Gospel.

- A. The "Bible" is not just another book or collection of books!
 1. The Bible is of Divine origin or God breathed!
 2. The Bible is the only book that reveals our origin - God (Gen. 1:26), why we are here on earth - to fear God and keep His commandments (Eccl. 12:13), and where we are headed - the judgment (Heb. 9:27).
- B. The Apostle Paul penned, "All Scripture is given by _____ of God..." (2 Tim. 3:16).
- C. About how many men wrote the Bible? _____
- D. By what or Who were these writers guided (2 Pet. 1:20-21)? _____
- E. What did Paul say he was writing to the Corinthians according to 1 Corinthians 14:37? _____
- F. Our attitude toward the Bible, the word of God, will impact our spiritual growth

II. Believing In The Power Of The Gospel.

- A. The evidence of the transformative power of the Gospel is overwhelming!
- B. Why was the Apostle Paul not ashamed of the Gospel according to Romans 1:16-17?

- C. Do we really believe in the power of the Gospel?
- D. If Jesus can change water to wine (Jn. 2:1:12) what else can He change? _____

- E. If Jesus can raise the physically dead (Jn. 11:43-44)? _____

III. Believing In The Profitability Of The Gospel.

- A. People generally are motivated to do a thing when there is "profitability" in doing said thing.
- B. A reading of 2 Timothy 3:16-17 reveals, "All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."
 - 1. Briefly describe each of the following:
 - a. Doctrine: _____
 - b. Reproof: _____
 - c. Correction: _____
 - d. Instruction: _____
 - 2. God's word can equip us for every good work!

IV. Believing In The Personal Nature Of The Gospel.

- A. The word of God is not just for the other person!
 - 1. Yes, that sermon may have been good for so and so!
 - 2. Or we wish so and so was "at church" to hear that sermon!
- B. Of the 27 New Testament Books, 22 were written to Christians!
 - 1. What are some necessary conclusions we could draw about 22 letters being addressed to Christians? _____

 - 2. The "walk" of the Christian is a common subject addressed throughout the New Testament " (Rom. 6:4; 8:1, 13:13, 2 Cor. 5:7; Eph. 4:1, 5:2, 5:15; Phil. 3:16).
- C. Who has sinned (Rom. 3:23)? _____
- D. Who did Jesus die for (1 Tim. 4:10)? _____
- E. Who needs to hear God's word? _____

Conclusion:

Our attitude (heart condition) toward God's word matters!