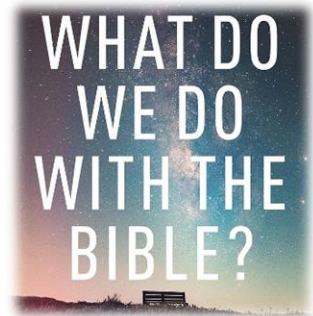


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## The Bible - Our Sacred Duty & Privilege -

- 1. The Lord has blessed us with His Sufficient, Inspired and Inerrant Word.** We have a precious treasure authored by God to us in our hands. Let the infallible word of God be our constant Counsellor and Companion daily. (Psa 119:105) Consider thinking about it and to fervently read it. Let the inspired words of Scripture saturate your mind from the beginning of the day. Get in tune with God before the concert of the day begins, and not pick up earthly static, for it is no ordinary book. 2Pet 1:19-21 says, *"We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."*
- 2. Study the Bible to Know, Comprehend and Apply.** Let Bible reading be more than a mere ritual but the digesting of true manna for the soul. Jer 15;16 says, *"Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts."* The Bible is to be studied and understood and practiced in our lives. (Phil 4:9) Ask the question: What does this mean to me today? Dig deeper in getting the meaning of it like a man fervently searching for precious stones or gold.
- 3. Meditate on the Content of the Bible with Simple and Humble Faith.** Open your heart — as you open God's book and be teachable and receptive. Resolve to read and know in greater depth and to believe implicitly the word of truth here. Resolve to meditate and to receive heartily and to apply it too. When you read Scripture, that is God speaking to us and we are to trust and obey for there is no other way!



**4. Digest the Teachings of the Bible with Submission & Faith.**

Food needs to be masticated and assimilated into our system. Find a place to be quiet and pray to contemplate the Word with diligence and discipline. Consider, as you peruse the sacred pages, *"How should this impact my life and goal and my testimony for the Lord? What does this warn or exhort me?"* Let it fill your minds; let it impact and influence your heart and life. The best is to practice it as much as you can. You should check what is taught by others with God's Word to see if it is consistent with it as Acts 17:11 says, *"These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so."*

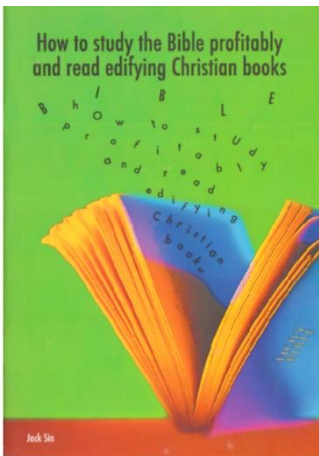


**5. Deeply Ponder and Memorise the Lessons from the Bible Dutifully.**

2Tim 2:15 says, *"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."* Be conscious and determined to read systematically and meditate on it with purpose. It is nutrient for our souls, as needed manna and clothing for our bodies. We need to gather our manna fresh every morning. Choose your time and place. Do not rush or hurry your reading. Give Him the best of your time, be it morning or noon or night! But whatever, let it be a rule of your life to masticate and digest God's Word without fail daily

**6. Study the whole Bible in a Systematic Manner.**

Read the bible in such a manner that you do not neglect any book over a period of time. We have our favourite passages and there are many passages of the Word which some people never read at all. Note that *"All Scripture is profitable"* (2 Tim 3:16) and it is profitable for doctrine, reproof and correction and instruction in righteousness.



**7. Let the Spirit of God Speak to you from the sufficient Bible and be Receptive to its Admonitions.**

As a general rule, whatever a verse of the Bible seems to apply or is relevant to you, then it does matter that you consider it deeply. In hermeneutics, there is a rule that says, *"The right way of interpreting Scripture is to grammatical historical approach and to let the plain senses of it speak to us unless there is a need to understand it allegorically as required by the text."*

**8. Peruse, Contemplate and Masticate the Bible with our Eyes Fixed on Christ.**

The whole aim of understanding inspired Scripture is to testify of Jesus! Old Testament ceremonies are shadows of Christ. Old Testament judges are *types* of Christ. Old Testament prophecies are full of Christ's

sufferings, and of Christ's glory yet to come. The first coming and the second coming is relevant for us today; and the Lord's humiliation and His glorious kingdom; His cross and the crown to come is also needful to know the nature and the work of Christ from the Word, John in Rev 1:3 says, "*Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.*"

## Conclusion

Let us consider these ways to meditate and study the Bible daily with a certain disposition of heart and mind:

1. **Prayerfully** from our Hearts and Souls (Psa 119:18, Matt 21:22)
2. **Meditatively** in our Minds (Josh 1:8, Psa 1:1-3)
3. **Consciously** in the Content of the Word (2 Tim 2:15, Ezra 7:10)
4. **Consistently** in its Frequency and Intensity (Psa 1:2, Heb 4:16)
5. **Soberly** in our Humble Attitude (Jas 1:21, 2Chr 7:14)
6. **Submissively** in our Obedience to God (Jas 1:22, John 14:21)
7. **Expectantly** in our Hope and Anticipation of His Soon Coming (Heb 4:12, Tit 2:14)
8. **Respectfully** in the Awe & Fear of God (Isa 66:2, Prov 9:10)
9. **Persistently** in our Desire and not stop nor give up as it is Important to our Souls (Matt 4:4, Eph 6:18)

May we be Diligent to Relish and Cherish the Word of God, to Grow and Glow in the knowledge of it as the Sure Foundation of our Faith.

Jack Sin

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Pastors Fraternal Fellowship on 6 Aug 2024 at Sovereign Hope with 11 in attendance. Dr Samuel Gan shared on Creation Science and the CMI ministry.



## Memory Verse

*Exod 12:14* And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.

## Announcements

1. Welcome to our Worship Service! If you are here for the first time, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave. Those who share the church vision to acquire a place of worship in due time, may designate your offerings to the SHBPC Church Building Fund.
2. Pastor brings us God's Word this morning on "***Typology of the Passover Lamb [Exod 12:1-27]***", the study on the "***Book of Exodus – Supernatural Guidance in the Wilderness of Life.***"
3. Next Sunday, Pastor will preach on "***Song of Gratitude & Praise [Exod 15:1-27]***".
4. The Combined Sunday School class today is another seminar by Dr Samuel Gan on "***Aliens & Multiverses - Do They Exist: A Biblical Perspective***". All are welcome.
5. Chinese Fellowship meets on every Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom with both local and overseas brethren. We have systematic studies on Old Testament Foundations and the 10 Commandments. Join us for a time of profitable learning. **[Zoom ID:883 9662 4157 Passcode: 218178]**.
6. Do send your prayer items to Pastor and join us for Church Prayer Meeting on Wed at 8pm via Zoom. The prayer list is available in church. **[Zoom ID:863 7527 5431 Passcode: 625551]**.
7. Pray for:
  - Medical: Anthony [lung cancer: narrowing airways], Samuel Wong [multiple health conditions], Aunty Chwee Lian [hip fracture], Daniel Phang [high blood pressure], Kin Hoong [monitoring of heart and lungs pressure].
  - Travels: Marilyn (Philippines)
8. **The Church Annual Congregational Meeting** will be held on **Sun 25 Aug 2024** after the worship service. All members are required to attend.
9. Love gifts, Offering and Tithes to the Lord can be given in the following ways:
  - **Cheque** payable to **Sovereign Hope Bible Presbyterian Church** and mail to church address. (Kindly write the full name of the church as indicated.)
  - **Fund transfer** to Church **UOB** Account **392-308-825-1**
  - **PayNow** to Church UEN: **T19SS0116FSOV**

Kindly indicate "**Church Building Fund**" if you would like to designate towards this cause.