

## **The Power of Reading the Scriptures**

*Scripture Reference: John 5:37-40*

### **Review from Pastor Steve Last Sunday**

- Main text was 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- Carrying a \_\_\_\_\_ Bible has benefits.
- Using an electronic Bible should be \_\_\_\_\_.
- Jesus is called the Word of God (John 1:1;14, John 14:6)
- When the Bible speaks, Jesus is speaking.
- The Holy Spirit is the \_\_\_\_\_.
- How to get started with reading the Bible.
- Prayed for a hunger for the Word at the end.

### **I. Reading the Bible**

- When it comes to reading the Bible remember to plan \_\_\_\_\_ and read \_\_\_\_\_.
- Many of us have missed the \_\_\_\_\_ because we've only gone through the motions when reading the word of God.
- The Bible isn't merely a book, it's \_\_\_\_\_!
- "But I'm tired."
  - It's not that I'm tired, it's my lack of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - "The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak." Matthew 26:40-43
- "But I'm busy."
  - The sad thing about being full is losing your \_\_\_\_\_ to eat.
    - Sometimes your plate is too full that you don't have room for more.
      - You will stop eating and \_\_\_\_\_ for dessert if you really want it...

### **II. Believing the Bible**

- The life you live shows what you \_\_\_\_\_ the most.
  - Think for yourself: Do you have a high value for and strong belief in the Holy Scriptures?
- The #1 most sold book of all time is the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Estimated \_\_\_\_\_ copies sold

- The 2<sup>nd</sup> most sold book is the Quran estimating over 800 million copies sold.
- Four main general proofs that support the Bible:
  - 1) \_\_\_\_\_ evidence
  - 2) \_\_\_\_\_ evidence
  - 3) \_\_\_\_\_ evidence
  - 4) \_\_\_\_\_ evidence
- Do you really believe that the word of God is \_\_\_\_\_ and active?  
Hebrews 4:12

### III. Doing What the Bible Says

- John 5:40, "But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life."
- It's one thing to know \_\_\_\_\_ God, it's another thing to \_\_\_\_\_ God.
  - And to \_\_\_\_\_ His commands.
- When you get saved but you don't work out your salvation with fear and trembling, you've \_\_\_\_\_ that you're in Christ.
- Some of us are \_\_\_\_\_ the word, many of us \_\_\_\_\_ it. Very few of us \_\_\_\_\_ it.
- In 2009 The Center of Bible Engagement compiled extensive research findings by Arnold Cole, Ed.D. & Pamela Caudill Ovwigho, Ph.D. into a document titled "Understanding the Bible Engagement Challenge: Scientific Evidence for the Power of 4."
  - Feeling lonely drops \_\_\_\_\_
  - Anger issues drop \_\_\_\_\_
  - Bitterness in relationships drops \_\_\_\_\_
  - Alcoholism drops \_\_\_\_\_
  - Sex outside of marriage drops \_\_\_\_\_
  - Feeling spiritually stagnant drops \_\_\_\_\_
  - Viewing pornography drops \_\_\_\_\_
  - Sharing your faith jumps \_\_\_\_\_
  - Discipling others jumps \_\_\_\_\_
- "If you give an hour to God each day, you will be \_\_\_\_\_ successful."  
– Steve Pearson

