



THINK INSIDE
The Book
BIBLE STUDY

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Think Inside the Book Bible Study by Quortney J
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Chapter 2, Assignment 1

Today in our reading, we got a few important questions answered...

Who created everything?
Why did He create man?
What are his plans for the future?

So like all things, our Christian life has a beginning and an end...

What I want to focus on is the very last passage we read.
2 Peter 3:1-14

And my question to you is this
“What do you want to be found doing when Christ returns?
Yelling at your kids?
Fighting with your husband?
In the middle of sending that righteous text?
In an age old feud?”

Well, God tells us in verse 14 through the pen of Peter how we should be found...
“Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, **be diligent**, that ye may be found of him in **peace, without spot, and blameless.**”

Be diligent- “steady”

1 Cor 15:58

“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.”

1 Cor 3:8 tells us “Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.”

1 Cor 4:5 also says “Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsel of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.”

Be found in peace- “a state of quite or tranquility, freedom from disturbances or agitation” peace is also defined as “the happiness of heaven”

Phil 1:10 says “ That ye may approve (or try) things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ;”

Without spot - “a stain on character or reputation”

I also found this interesting in the definition of spot... "A mark on a substance made by foreign matter. A speck, a blot, a place discolored. The least spot is visible on white paper."

We are to live in a way as to not get spotted by foreign matter. We are foreigners in this world. Everything the world does is foreign to us. Don't get spotted by the world. There was one person that ever walked this earth that was without spot... Strive everyday to be like him.

in Job 11:13-15 it says "If thou prepare thine heart, and stretch out thine hands toward him; if iniquity be in thine hand, put it far away, and let not wickedness dwell in thy tabernacles. For then shalt thou lift up thy face without spot; yea, thou shalt be stedfast, and shall not fear:"

and lastly

Be blameless- "without fault, innocent, guiltless"

Phil 2:14-15 says "Do all things without murmurings and disputings: That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, IN THE MIDST OF A CROOKED AND PERVERSE NATION, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;"

God knows this world is troubled and yet he still said we are to shine as lights in it. In order for your light to shine, it can't be all spotted. What good is a flashlight or a lightbulb or any other light that is all spotted up and dirty? How well can a Christian's light shine if it is all spotted and dirty from the world?

Sometimes all us Christians need is a good shower with the living water of God's Word to wash off the filth of this ole world!

Chapter 2, Assignment 2

Redemption...

Don't you love that word?

Today's study is all about it!

Listen to this definition...

Repurchase of captured goods or prisoners. The act of procuring the deliverance of persons or things from the possession and power of captors by the payment of an equivalent ransom.

We have been redeemed from the bondage of sin and the penalties of God's violated law by the atonement of Christ.

A lot of people try to complicate salvation. But, Romans 10:9-13 spells it out for us all.

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart, that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

On our own our best attempt at righteousness is still filthy. We could never be or live good enough to earn a spot in Heaven.

So, God has a plan.

John 3:16-17

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

Ephesians 2:8-9

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."

John 5:24

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation: but is passed from death to life."

Chapter 2, Assignment 3

In Exodus 33 Moses asked God to show him his glory. He wanted to see God. He wanted to know God.

Did you notice how God showed himself to Moses in the passages we read today in Ex 34:5-8?

Did God show Moses his body? NO!

God told Moses of his character!

Truly knowing someone isn't about their looks or their actual body, something that we can know within a split second of laying eyes on them.

Knowing someone takes time. To know someone we learn about their character.

God is no different. If we want to know him, we must learn about him. About his character. What he likes and dislikes. What he enjoys. What makes him angry. What makes him happy.

But, it shouldn't be enough to just know him. We should want a relationship with him. To have a relationship with him is not only to read and study his word, but to obey it also.

One of my favorite preachers "Adrian Rogers" put it like this
"Study the Bible to know about God. Obey the Bible to really know God."

In order to get to know God that personally, we need to read and study His Word and then obey it. The Bible contains everything we need to know about God. About everything!

It truly is a waste to have your Bible laying on a shelf somewhere never to be opened.

I love how the author ended this lesson with Psalm 139!

God knows every single thing about us. Unlike our other relationships, we can't hide anything from him. He knows it all. He knows our highest points and our lowest. And still after all that, he loves us! He surrounds us. He's always there. He's there for the highs, but he's also there for the lows.

I love verse 11. If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me! and verse 12 says that the night shineth as the day.

When we have a relationship with God, we are never alone. We are never in the darkness. We are never alone! The one that created us is always there.

Chapter 2, Assignment 4

Psalm 34 is such a comforting Psalm. We read in our lesson today quite a few verses on seeking godly counsel. Psalm 34 is godly counsel from a man named David. A man that's been there, done that and seen it all! Do you have a Christian like that in your life? Learn from them!

All of these verses were so on time today about fear and being anxious...

But what I saw continually throughout all of these passages was this...

God is in control of every single thing. It's as easy as speaking for him. If you want peace, he'll give it. If you want wisdom, he'll give it. If you need deliverance, he's got you.

Psalm 34:15-17 tells me that God's eyes are on the righteous. He sees everything going on around us. But, he doesn't just come snatch us up out of all the bad situations. He's watching and he's waiting on you to make the first move. You have to act!

We aren't to be huddled up in a corner waiting on God to come and save us from our hardships. Every single verse we read today had action verbs in it. I went through Psalm 34 and circled every one of them! It was full of them.

Here's the bottom line...

The story in Mark 4 tells us that He controls everything. Keep faith.

Philippians 4 tells us that He will give us peace. Don't dwell on the bad, instead choose to focus on the good.

Isaiah 41:10 tells us not to fear! He is with you!

Psalm 37 tells us to trust Him. Delight in Him. Commit your ways to Him.

Matthew 10 says he knows the hairs on our head! He loves us! We are valuable to him!

I encourage you to go back and read all the verses from today and note every time the Bible is telling you to do something. Circle those actions verbs.

We have work to do!

Chapter 2, Assignment 5

Ok ladies, let's think back to when we were in school. On the first day of a new year when you got all of your books... did you know the information that was in them?

Probably not. If you were like me anyway!

But, as the year progressed and you studied and read the books, didn't you come to understand their content?

The Bible is the same way. God wrote it for ordinary people like you and me. He wrote it so that we would understand it if we studied it.

He wrote it so that you could build truth upon truth.

If you are a casual verse reader. Never really diving in and studying a particular topic or book, how do you expect to ever grasp its concepts?

But, the Bible is more than some age old book.

So whats the point of it? Why should we read it everyday and obey it?

Well, obviously for one, this question can easily be answered by just looking at the author him self.

The creator of Heaven and Earth. The God of the universe. The creator of me and you, took the time to have men pen out every single word of it. That's enough reason in itself.

But, Hebrews 4:12 says "For the word of God is quick (living) and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder (that's the division of) of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner (or a judge of) of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

This Bible right here can get down to the nitty gritty. You want to know who you are... what kind of person you are. You want to know whether your motives are good or bad.

Start studying this Book. You will learn so much about yourself!

Got some things you need to change or get right?

Psalm 119:9 says "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word"

Proverbs 16:3 says "Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established."

If you want to dig a little deeper, I encourage you to read Psalm 119 today! It talks all about God's Word!

I just want to get you to understand this. If you feel lost or helpless. Like you can't find your way. Like you don't know what to do or in what direction your next step should be in...

Get into God's Word. Really dig into it.

Psalm 119:105 tells us "thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

and Proverbs 6:20-23 says it like this "My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother: Bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck. When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee. For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life."