



Day 1:

Find a Bible.

Hold it in your hands.

Look at it.

Smell it.

Thumb through its pages.

You hold a miracle. Whether digital or paper – it is the revealed Word of God. Breathed out by the Holy Spirit and breathed in by Jesus-followers all over the world. By it, we are sustained; and by it, we find revival. By it, we are sanctified; and by it, we live.

For thousands of years, men and women of God longed to see what you hold. The complete and Holy Word of God in a language they could understand and study. In a language they could apply and obey. In a language they could illuminate and teach.

Ezra was one such believer, an old testament priest with a few scrolls to light his path. God chose him to oversee the restoration of social and religious order in Jerusalem after Israel's return from captivity. God used Ezra as a catalyst for one of the greatest revivals in the Old Testament.

The key to his influence and impact is found in the book of Ezra chapter 7 verse 10.

“He dedicated himself to study, obey, and teach the Word of God.”

Challenge: How do you study the Holy Spirit revealed Word of God?

Read:

[Matthew 13:17](#)

[Ezra 7](#)

[Psalms 119:1-48](#)



Day 2:

In 2016, Lifeway Research published a study of American Christian views on Bible Reading. It revealed that 70% of U.S. believers rarely systematically read or study their Bibles. Most of us, according to the study, pick and choose a verse at a time, return to a favorite passage, or simply flip the Bible open and read where our eyes land. We treat the sixty-six-course living Bread of God like a Chinese buffet.

The Bible is a literary work meant to be read in its entirety. Imagine the confusion of reading a favorite novel the same way most of us treat the Bible.

Meaningful Bible study begins with prayer. Prayer is the incense that prepares our minds and hearts to receive the Word of God. Pray that the Holy Spirit reveals God's Word to your mind, that your heart receives it, and that your body obeys it.

As you read the passage, ask yourself these three questions:

- **What was the Holy Spirit saying to the initial audience it was written to?**
- **What is the Holy Spirit teaching me now?**
- **How can I apply it?**

Next, spend some time intentionally meditating on a passage that stood out in your study. Think about it throughout the day. Hide it in your heart and memorize it.

Additionally, you should read what others have written about that passage. Many Bible scholars like Matthew Henry, James Strong, Dr. J. Vernon Mcgee, and Dr. Thomas Constable attempted to climb the heights of scripture. They, and others like them, recorded what they saw so that you might stand on their shoulders and read what the Holy Spirit revealed to them.

We must study God's word every day. The Law of God is like a mirror, it reveals our flaws and failures. The longer we neglect His Word, the further our hearts drift away from God. This happened to Israel, and they disobeyed God's command to be a people set apart from the rest of the nations. When Ezra heard of it, he was immediately heart-broken and felt a personal responsibility for Israel's sin. He knew that Israel's repentance and obedience were necessary for revival and restoration.

Challenge: As you read today's Scripture ask yourself the three questions listed above:

Read:

[Ezra 9](#)
[Psalms 119:49-96](#)



Day 3:

Ezra desired to study, obey, and teach the Revelation of God.

Study. Obey. Teach. That order is important. You should not teach what you have not put into practice, and you cannot effectively practice what you have not studied. Ezra knew the Word of God. He knew that social and religious restoration required personal application and obedience of God's word.

Today's reading may shock you, so consider this: how many times do we – as Jesus-followers – wed the things of this world to our lives when we are called to be set apart? We cannot find restoration, renewal, or revival while holding onto the things Jesus died to free us from.

Obedience is the glue that binds the Word of God to our hearts. It binds us to other believers. If prayer is incense, then obedience is the smoke from that incense. It fills our lives and permeates the world around us. Obedience is the evidence of our faith, the evidence of the Holy Spirit working in us. Obedience is the translation of scripture into our lives.

We cannot obey God's word on our own. Jesus did not die and come back to life so that we could live better lives, as if we could obey God on our own. He was slain for our transgressions, He was raised for our sanctification so that He, through His Spirit, could live the Christian life through us and for us.

This is how you obey: Study the Word of God and do what it says by the power of the Holy Spirit living in you. If that seems impossible, know this: the same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead is at work in you to accomplish more than you could ever ask, think, or imagine.

Challenge: What are you holding on to that Jesus died to free you from?

Read:

[Ezra 10:1-12](#)

[Psalms 119:97-136](#)



Day 4:

Not everyone is called to teach, but we all – by the example of our lives – teach others what we believe. We teach by obedience, and we obey what we study and believe.

Today’s reading marked the beginning of a great revival in Jerusalem. Every revival starts with a return to the Word of God. Only when we study and obey the Holy Scriptures can revival begin in us. Only when we teach others to do the same can revival spread from us.

The most effective Bible translation is not the one in your heart language, it’s not the New Living Translation or even the King James Version. The best, most effective Bible translation is your life and how you translate the word of God into personal obedience. The world may never know what goes on in your prayer closet, but it will see how that time is translated into your daily life.

You have the Spirit of God at work in you. You have the complete Holy Word of God to guide the steps of your life. Live it well. Be an example to others so that they will see your good works and give God the glory.

Challenge: For more free Bible study resources, check out www.morethanwarriors.com

Read:

[Nehemiah 8:1-12](#)

[Nehemiah 9](#)

[Psalm 119:137-176](#)



Study To Show Thyself Approved unto God...

- 2nd Timothy 2:15



Today's Bible Study

Date:

Prayer:

Today's Reading Reference:

Subject or Topic:

What did it mean to the original audience?

A passage or idea that stood out to me was:

What is the Holy Spirit saying to me today?

How can I apply this to my life today?

[He] committed himself to study, obey, and teach the Revelation of God.

- Ezra 7:10

