

## Why study the Bible with someone?

Although the Bible is clear about whom God is and how we should worship Him, and who Jesus is and how we should follow Him, the world is not too clear! 2000 years of denominational Christianity has made things quite foggy for people. We study the Bible to help cut through the fog and get to the truth. Assume the worst! Not about people but about what they may have been taught. Most people have been spiritually influenced more by denominational Christianity and false doctrine than the truth of the Bible. They may be very sincere but sincerely wrong! Our goal through these studies is to help them navigate through the important themes in the Bible and find their way to Lordship, discipleship, and salvation!

## Here are 12 important things to keep in mind as you study with people:

1. The studies are just a frame, a guide. This is not a “course” you graduate from and then get baptized. The real work is what goes on in between the studies; how they are applied!
2. Don't overwhelm them! The ideal number of people in the study is 3. One to teach, one to take notes and one to help.
3. Don't belabor every point! Everyone does not have to share a personal story or add to every scripture. Be thorough but keep it moving along. The real learning happens when they go back over the notes later.
4. Ask questions all along the way and listen! What did they say? What should they have said?
5. Teach conviction and call people to decisions
6. Remember the power is in the Word, let that move their hearts. We are only guides.
7. Learn the studies to build your own conviction and confidence.
8. Set up the next study before you leave.
9. Remember where you were at this point! Be patient and helpful. Give your heart.
10. Be prayerful and faithful. Believe they can make it and help them believe that.
11. Be prepared and ready to go. Know what you want to accomplish before you begin. The idea that you are studying with them for them should not be a surprise! Explain what you are doing and trying to accomplish.
12. Study the person as you study the Bible. Really get to know them, their backgrounds, lives, beliefs, etc... Share openly from your own life and experiences. You are building a spiritual friendship!

Jn 4:35 “Do you not say, ‘Four months more and then the harvest’? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the **fields!** They **are ripe** for harvest.”

We all came to become disciples of Jesus by someone remembering these important points for us. Now it's your turn! Pray for open people, open the Word and open your heart!