**Who Needs to Study the Bible?**

Nothing can take the place of personal Bible study. No matter how many sermons you hear, classes you attend, devotional type books you read, or even articles such as this can take the place of your personal Bible study. We all need to study God’s word so that we can know how we ought to live. I believe this is what Paul was saying to Timothy when he wrote, *“All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work”* (2 Tim 3:16-17).

The study of God’s word is not just for preachers and evangelists, but for each and every one of us. Luke said of the Bereans, *“Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so“* (Acts 17:11). There is no other way to know how to live righteous and godly lives, except by studying God’s written word. *“For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age”* (Titus 2:11-12).

Here is a list of a few different groups that need to study the Bible. I know I fit into several of these categories.

The YOUNG- to learn how to live. -Eccl. 12:1-8

The OLD- in preparation for death, judgment and eternity. -Heb. 9:27-28

The IGNORANT-in order to learn wisdom. -Acts 17:30-31

The LEARNED- to achieve humility. -Prov. 29:23

The RICH- to develop compassion. -Matt. 19:23-24

The POOR- as a source of comfort. -James 2:5

The WEAK- in order to develop strength. -Heb. 5:12-14

The STRONG- for direction and guidance. -John 16:13

The HAUGHTY- for cautionary warning. -1 Cor. 10:12

The HUMBLE- for encouragement and ultimate exaltation. -Luke 14:11

The TROUBLED- to learn peace and goodwill. -2 Thess.1:7

The WEARY- for rest. -Matt. 11:28-30

The SINNER- to learn God's terms for salvation. -1 John 1:9

The DOUBTING- for assurance and firm confidence. -John 20:27-29

CHRISTIANS-for continued guidance and growth. -2 Tim. 2:15

We never come to a point where we no longer need to study the Bible. Each time that we open up and read the scriptures there is always something there for us to learn. Many times I can read the same passage over and over and each time I can find something new, because of the circumstances I read it under. God’s word is a marvelous thing and we should never take it for granted.