



# **How to study the Bible**

## **Part 2. Listening Guide**

**FEARLESS**

SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

# Part 2

## Why We Study the Bible and the Tools We Have

---

It would be a mistake to think that a \_\_\_\_\_ will be enough to get everything God wants you to have from the Bible.

The full message of a book that has God as its ultimate author cannot be \_\_\_\_\_.

*On the one hand, it is so complex that down through the ages brilliant scholars have devoted lifetimes to grasp all they can, only to be aware of how much they still don't know. On the other hand, God is also able to communicate through his Word in such a straight-forward and unpretentious way that even a child can understand the basics of its message.*

The truth of the matter is that the more you study, understand and apply the Bible the more \_\_\_\_\_ God will have for you.

*We want to have the same attitude as King David who wrote, Praise be to you, LORD; teach me your decrees. With my lips I recount all the laws that come from your mouth. I rejoice in following your statutes as one rejoices in great riches. I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word. -Psalm 119:12-16*

When we dig deeper into the Bible, we are equipping the \_\_\_\_\_ to do more significant transformational work within.

*In Ephesians 6 we learn that the Bible is the "sword" of the Holy Spirit and in Hebrews we read this astounding statement, For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. -Hebrews 4:12*

It's been said, the goal of Bible study is not just to get you into the \_\_\_\_\_, but to get the \_\_\_\_\_ into you.

*Reading the Bible and applying it to our lives takes a fair amount of time, study, effort and discipline, but we are not left to do it alone.*

**Along with the Holy Spirit's help we have the benefit of \_\_\_\_\_ who have studied the Bible and made their research available to us.**

*Much of this research is available online and is even free, but we want to recommend to you Bible Study tool that is invaluable: A Study Bible.*

**A \_\_\_\_\_ is a combination of the Scripture itself and a commentary that explains what the Scripture is saying.**

*As you read a passage of the Bible, you can immediately look below in the commentary to discover what key words and concepts mean, historical data that is relevant, other places in the Bible where this principle is taught and so on. It contains a wealth of information that will make the Bible passage come to life.*

**Here's a list of a few helpful Study Bibles:**

**NIV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible**

**NIV Zondervan Study Bible**

**ESV Study Bible**

**HCSB Study Bible**

**Life Application Study Bible**

**The pastors in the Fearless Family of Churches are always available to offer our \_\_\_\_\_.**

*The pastors in the Fearless Family of Churches are always available to offer our help. We love talking about the Bible and would enjoy any chance we have to answer questions or give assistance. always want to offer our help.*

*In the following sections we will walk through a three-step process ("What it says", "What it means", "What I will do") that will guide you through your Bible study.*