**CHRISTCOMPANIONBIBLECHURCH**

**WeeklyBibleStudy**

***Branch: Headquarters Date: 11/06/2024***

 **TAKING PERSONAL INITIATIVE TO PROFIT FROM YOUR BIBLE (STUDY 18)**

**TEXT:** Ezra 7:9-10; 2 Timothy 2:15, Joshua 1:8, Ps. 119:1-12.

**MEMORY VERSE:** Ezra 7:10,

 Ezra, a notable Bible scholar in his era revealed the factors that enhanced and helped him to excel in his quest to know God better. History had it that he sought and sourced the Holy Book to help him study. He also determined to obey and apply the word! As a result of these efforts, he was a great influence in directing the nationals towards righteousness.You also have some roles to play in tapping helpful resources from God's word to grow fruitfully in Christ.

 **The followings are some personal initiatives necessary to gain from the Bible.**

**1. Faith in the written Word of God. 2 Peter 1:19; Ephesians 1:13.** Faith in God and His word is the fundamental requirement to profit in His word. The book of Hebrews 11:6 (KJV) says: ***"... for he that cometh to God must believe that he is and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him"***. Faith takes the word of God as given, believe and trust it with all passion.

**2. Spiritual Regeneration: John 3:3-5**. An unregenerate man is like a blind man given a book to read and understand! It will be an impossible task. Salvation opens the spiritual eyes of understanding of a true believer. Ephesians 1:18. God will always make His heart known to his beloved children who are willing and ready to live to His glory and praise.

**3. Get a good version of the Bible for your personal study and meditation. Psalm 119:9-11**. The word of God is the food for human' spirit. From this, the soul is nurtured to Christlikeness in day to day living and walking with God. By reading and meditating on God's word:

*i. God's mind and purposes for your life are made known.*

*ii. God's promises are revealed.*

*iii. His love, justice and righteousness are learnt and imbibed.*

*iv. The power of God's kingdom and the glory to come are made known and possessed to live rightly and serve God at best.*

 **4. Get additional materials to help your understanding of the Word of God like Paul the Apostle did: 2 Timothy 4:13 (KJV**), ***"The cloke that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring with thee, and the books, but especially the parchments"***. Such materials include:

*i. Bible Commentaries. There are many of them. Search for one that is good for you.*

*ii. Audio Bible Reader/Application: This will help you enjoy Bible reading electronically, whether on a journey or at a given time. Also, old people with limitations to read can grow in biblical knowledge through this means.*

*iii. Online Bible Expository Resources: Google at finger-tip can provide you wealth of helpful information.*

*iv. Bible Theological Schooling and Courses.*

*v. Bible Cartoon for children. etc.*

**5. Regular attendance of Weekly Bible Study and daily observance of Quite Time will help you greatly.**

**6. Develop thirst and hunger for the truth on every matter. This will help you to search the scriptures regularly. Psalm 119:133.** Also, get occupied in service to the Lord in teaching, evangelism and discipleship. The more you give out, the more you will see the need to refuel and refresh from the word of God.

**7. Above all, pray for grace and divine visitation in your quest to know God and encounter Him as you study your Bible**. Sometimes, you can fast to improve your spiritual sensitivity. Positive attitude towards scriptural understanding and obedience is of a great gain. Psalm 119:97-100. May His grace be sufficient for you in Jesus mighty name. Amen.

**HYMN: DEEPER, DEEPER IN THE LOVE OF JESUS (CHS 76)**

1. Deeper, deeper, in the love of Jesus

Daily let me go;

Higher, higher in the school of wisdom,

And more of grace to know.

 *O dee…per yet I pray*

 *And higher every day*

 *And wiser blessed Lord*

 *In thy precious Holy word*

2. Deeper, deeper, blessed Holy Spirit, Take me deeper still

 Till my life is wholly lost in Jesus

 And His perfect will.

3. Deeper, deeper though it cost hard trials,

 Deeper let me go!

Rooted in the holy love of Jesus

Let me fruitful grow.

4. Deeper, higher, every day in Jesus

Till all conflict past

 Finds me conqu’or,

 and in His own image

 Perfected at last.