

FOUNDATIONS

PART 3 - THE BIBLE

THE BIBLE

Have you ever read a book more than once? One of my absolute favourite books is 'The Hiding Place' by Corrie Ten Boom. It's a fascinating true story about a Christian family who came to the aid of their Jewish neighbours in Holland during World War Two. I first read it when I was 14, then again a few years later, and again last year when I was 28. I love a good book but very rarely will I come across a book that I could read more than once.

That's the thing about the Bible, though. I've read and re-read the same stories many times but each time I find something new and exciting in the pages of scripture. The world famous preacher and theologian C. H. Spurgeon put it this way:

"Nobody ever outgrows Scripture; the book widens and deepens with our years."

The more we read the Bible the more we discover about God, His plans and the world we live in. The Bible is God's way of speaking to us and teaching us all we need to know about life. It can never be read too much, nor can we know too much about it.

I hope that through this study you can learn how wonderful the word of God is!

Don't forget that there is one more part to the 'Foundations' series. Have a look on our website - lmi-org.net/yso-studies - to find out more.

ENJOY!

BIBLE PASSAGE

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

HEBREWS 4:12 (ESV)

FURTHER READING

A Proverb about the Bible:

Proverbs 4:20-22

A Psalm about the Bible:

Psalm 119

Importance of Knowing the Bible:

Acts 17:11

The Permanence of the Bible:

Isaiah 40:6-8

The Usefulness of the Bible:

2 Timothy 3:15-16

Relying on the Bible:

Romans 15:4

PRAYER

Dear Lord, thank you for giving us all that you want to say to us through your word, and that you have made this available for us to read. Thank you that you make it possible to get to know you through it and that you give us all the answers we need. Please help me to read it, learn from it, and love it more each day. When I feel stuck or confused, please help me to understand it and grasp what you want to say to me. Amen.

QUESTION TIME

What do you think is meant by "living and active"?

How can the Bible help us to better understand our hearts?

Do you struggle to read the Bible? If so, why do you think this is?

How has reading the Bible been helpful to you?

CHALLENGE

Reading the Bible every day can be a hard discipline to develop. Many, many people struggle with it!

Studies suggest that it takes around 21 days to form a new habit . So, every day for the next 21 days, make it part of your daily routine to read a chapter of the Bible. You could perhaps read a Psalm or a chapter of Proverbs. Or maybe you'd prefer a story instead, so try reading the Gospel of Mark or John.

Set reminders on your phone or maybe try reading the Bible while eating your breakfast!