

How to Study the Bible - Part 5 - Feb 4

Getting to Know You

1. Would you rather be a tourist in (a) an architecturally interesting but more modern city, (b) a historically older city with museums/castles, etc., or (3) a city with a large, diverse music/drama/art scene? Explain.

In part 5 of our series *How to Study the Bible* we're talking about a major pitfall of Bible Study. And while there are many (we'll discuss this in the final part of this series next week), today we'll look at Jesus and the religious crowd, THEN our own hearts as we learn and grow in our knowledge of the Bible.

Digging Deeper

1. Have you ever observed that people in certain professions are amazing at their jobs but "fail to execute" this same gift in their personal lives? Could you be your own example? Explain.
2. The religious leaders of Jesus' day were guilty of Question 1 above.
 - a. What were the four reasons given in the message for this?
 - b. Are there more reasons besides these? (Read aloud Matthew 23:13-36 for hints.)
3. Based on the answers above, how do they challenge you and whom you're becoming as you deepen your faith?
4. In the message it was noted: "If knowledge doesn't produce change, pride creeps in." How could that be true?
5. Pastor Nik's notes from Sunday included, "As a pastor I've seen many examples of letting Bible knowledge become a mark of pride. The result:
 - More judgmental → Less gracious.
 - Smarter → Colder.
 - Opinionated → Manipulative.

Whether related to our faith in Christ, or maybe at work, home, places of higher education, etc., have you ever seen this pattern?

6. While there are others, what were "the three healthy effects of studying the Bible" from Sunday's message?
7. Can anyone refer to The Grove Church's Code (core values) that are a reflection of Bible Study? (you can find them listed at [grove.church/the-code/](https://www.grovechurch.org/the-code/))
8. Why is this conversation important as we get closer to a Grand Opening in 2024?

Making It Personal

- Compare yourself to the religious leaders of Jesus' day, and to Jesus. How are you like the religious leaders? How are you like Jesus?
- Does anyone in the group know verses that are sources of encouragement for becoming more like Jesus? If so, share away! :)
- Have someone pray before you dismiss, specifically that as you continue studying the Bible, that you'd not fall into the pit of religious pride but instead become like Jesus.