

How to Understand the Bible Like Your Pastor

Bible Study 2—Kenneth Mbugua

For everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. —Hebrews 5:13

I. Love God not just His Word

- a. Study of the Bible can be an idol John 5:39–40
- b. Study as an expression of worship Nehemiah 8:5–6
- c. Study to know God more and to know more about God
Philippians 1:9

II. Grow your Awe of the Word

- a. It is alive and can give life Hebrews 4:12; James 1:17
- b. It is the very word of God 2 Peter 1:19–21; Exodus 20:19–20
- c. It is what God uses to sanctify you John 17:17
- d. You cant “live” without it Matthew 4:4

III. Have a Plan

- a. Set time aside Colossians 4:2
- b. Pray Psalm 119:18, 36; 86:11
- c. Study Plan—Get into both the Old and New Testaments
Matthew 13:52

IV. Cultivate a better Approach to the text

- a. Read...a lot! — Cultivating the habit of observation
- b. Knowing your grammar helps — Basic arcing
- c. Identify the big idea and the themes first — Avoid the red herring
- d. Mark your Bible — No Rewards for clean Bibles in heaven
- e. Summarize your conclusions — Ambiguity is not your friend

V. Get better Tools for the work

- a. Overreliance on study guides can hamper your growth
- b. Under reliance on external resources can be spiritual pride
- c. Be willing to spend money on a good resource—a few good examples

VI. Live what you Learn & Share what you Learn

- a. Do not be deceived, knowing is not the same as doing James 1:22
- b. Maximize your study by sharing with others what you are learning Ephesians 4:15