

Class Notes on Starting the Study of the Book of 2 Timothy

Why the notes? The purpose of these class notes is to help set the stage for our Summer-Fall men's Bible Study in the book of 2 Timothy. I found studying 2 Timothy immensely rewarding and have purposefully prepared this series of lessons so that you also might have a memorable encounter with this portion of scripture and, as a result, grow in Christ. And even though there are commonalities in this book with what we learned earlier together in 1 Timothy (which we will build upon,) please understand that this study will be unique, rich, and just as much a tool in the hands of the Holy Spirit to build you up in Christ as we hope to learn everything we can from this brief book of the Bible. From time to time, I may publish updated class notes such as this to point out things that can enhance your Bible study.

Some differences in our approach. In this study I plan to keep the pace slow enough to allow for frequent participation and discussion. The amount of content will be managed into smaller chunks with the goal that we can more fully "digest" what we are learning and thus improve our ability to find personal applications in our lives from the spiritual principles presented in the Holy Scriptures. At a slower pace when we find a key word, verse, or theme we will be able to pause and go deeper for our understanding. So, you may find a mixture of verse by verse study and occasionally a more topical lesson. We will also continue build up our abilities to read, understand and share God's Word by pointing to Bible study tools including the Inductive Bible Study process and the Dig and Discover Tools as well as some new ones we have not yet tackled. We will not repeat but only review and continue to build on the ones from previous sessions; so, it will be a benefit to ourselves and each other to get out our blue study folders and review the handouts that were given out. Some key handouts are still posted on the men's Bible study page at <https://www.cape4christ.com/cape-men-4-christ/>.

Suggestions on additional study resources. Our study is designed to be open to men of all levels of Bible study from unlearned to well versed, from beginner to advanced, and therefore there is no "requirement" for resources to participate. However, as many are becoming more and more equipped and desire to advance, it is practical for me to suggest that you possess some basic tools and also begin to investigate some additional resources.

- **Basic resources: 1)** A Bible; preferably at least one without study notes or commentary. **2)** A concordance (where you can look up where else in the Bible a Word is used. **3)** dictionaries; a standard English dictionary but also Greek and Hebrew dictionaries (or lexicons.) **4)** A Bible Encyclopedia.
- **Additional resources.** Bible software can be a great complement to Bible study allowing deeper study, quick extensive word searches, interlinear Bibles and other original language tools.
- **Online Resources.** If you have internet access, these basic and many more additional resources are available online; and much of it is free. An introduction to free online resources available can be found by searching on YouTube for "Computer Tools for Bible Study" at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUWOTM9OuQ7KxLHRa0PSQ-w>. A Reference Guide can be downloaded at <https://login.filesanywhere.com/fs/v.aspx?v=8c6a6a885d6474b09d68>.

Some new study tools will be introduced! The first new Bible study tool we will take up together is how to do a *word study*. It's simple, yet so powerful in moving from reading to understanding that we will spend a session on it before jumping into 2 Timothy. I suggest looking at either the video, articles below or both beforehand:

How to Do Word Studies by George H. Guthrie, Lifeway Groups Ministry [YouTube.com] (20 min video)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ozsMoIXIFgM>

Words, 4 Simple Steps for Doing Bible Word Studies by George H. Guthrie, in Helping You Read the Bible Better (short blog article) <https://georgeguthrie.com/new-blog/2016/7/15/4-simple-steps-for-doing-word-studies> and Lecture 7: Word Studies at <https://www.biblicaltraining.org/library/word-studies/how-to-study-your-bible/george-guthrie>.

Sincerely,

In His Service
Bill Kugel