

“FOR THE EDIFYING OF THE BODY...” (1)

By Keith Greer

Christians have many personal responsibilities concerning our duty in passing along God’s knowledge to others.

We are told to bring our children up "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." (Ephesians 6:4) Do your children see that studying God's word, whether with other Christians or privately, is important to you? Or, do they see that everything in the world is more important? Can you teach them the things that they need to know so that they, too, can grow up, be converted to Christ, and live a godly life? Are you helping to put your children on the road towards heaven, or eternal punishment? Sadly, too many Christian parents put more time and effort in earthly pursuits for their children than spiritual ones! Unfortunately, some day they will regret it.

“And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.” (2 Timothy 2:2) Can we confidently teach the gospel of Christ to our children and others?

“For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe.” (Hebrews 5:12,13) Can you honestly say you have advanced to the “meat” of God’s word?

“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear.” (1 Peter 3:15) My brother and sister, do you have the ability to give spiritual answers to the hope you have in Christ?

We are told in 1 Thessalonians 5:11 to "Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing." Do you believe this is optional? Christians, that is our responsibility to one another.

Individual Christians, have the responsibility to know God's word so well that it is "written in our hearts". Certainly, private Bible study is a necessity in order for that to happen.

Christians used to be known as the people who "knew the Bible", but in far too many cases today, God can look down at us too and say, “**MY PEOPLE ARE DESTROYED FOR LACK OF KNOWLEDGE!**”

When we assemble for Bible study, it allows us to discuss and study God's word together. In so doing, we help one another to strengthen and grow in the knowledge of Christ.

“And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body

of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ." (Ephesians 4:11-13)

Have you been to Bible study lately? Come, and "learn" "what you have been missing!

Long ago I heard this statement and it has always stuck with me. **"A BIBLE THAT'S FALLING APART USUALLY BELONGS TO A PERSON WHO ISN'T."**

Bible study is a method of gaining more knowledge of God's word. It's time to open and meditate upon the words of life in order to learn and apply them into our lives to help us be stronger spiritually and live more godly lives. One cannot be edified in the truth if they are not present when the Bible is being studied. Come and try it, you won't be disappointed! ***