

THE BIBLE IS MY COUNSELOR

Objective

To understand the role of the Bible in our life and when and how to make use of the Bible

Scriptural Verse

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path” (**Psalms 119:105**)

References

- ❖ The new open Bible Study edition
- ❖ How to read the Bible- Fr. Matta El Meskeen

Introduction

The Bible is the greatest book ever written. Through it, God Himself speaks to man. It is a book of a divine author. It offers comfort in sorrow, guidance in perplexity, advice for our problems, rebuke for our sins, and daily inspiration for our every need.

The Bible is not simply one book but it is an entire library of books covering the whole range of literature. It has been translated to more than 1200 languages and more copies of the Bible are sold more than any other book.

Lesson Outline

- ❖ The Bible teaches us how to become Christians and then steps the believers through the Christian life.
- ❖ The Bible alone truly answers the greatest questions that men of all ages have asked: Where have I come from? Where I am going? Why am I here?
- ❖ The Bible alone gives an example of the expected Christian behavior through the example of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- ❖ The Bible alone helps us to know God, and points out the way to salvation and eternal life.
- ❖ The great purpose of the written word of God is to reveal to us the living word of God, the Lord Jesus Christ.
- ❖ Studying the Bible will help us in seven important points:
 - The Bible exposes sin and convicts us
 - The Bible cleanses us from the pollution of sin
 - The Bible imparts strength when we are weak or in sorrow
 - The Bible instructs us in what we need to do
 - The Bible makes our lives fruitful
 - The Bible makes our lives peaceful and joyful
 - The Bible makes our lives victorious
- ❖ The Bible should be read in a devotional way in order to hear the voice of God and we may know His will and live a better Christian life.

- ❖ A prayer before reading the Bible helps us to hear and understand the voice and commandments of God given in the Bible
- ❖ The Bible should be read slowly with the following questions asked after we read it:
 - What is the main subject of what I read?
 - Who are the persons in this passage?
 - What is the key verse for me?
 - What does this passage teach me?
 - Does this passage portray a sin for me to confess and forsake?
 - Does this passage contain any command for me to obey?
 - Is there any promise for me to claim?
 - Is there any instruction for me to follow?

Interpretations of the Bible are sometimes needed to help us understand what we read. They should be from trusted sources. The Lord Himself asked us to search the scripture: “You search the scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me” (**John 5:39**)

Conclusion

The Bible has an intrinsic beauty of the divine revelation. It is the source of comfort, strength, and joy in the Christian life. Only wise people are the ones who use it and live by it.

Activities/Discussion Points

Divide the class into subgroups to look for verses related to the following issues in our lives:

- Fear
- Sorrow
- Hopelessness or defeat
- Salvation
- Eternal life