

# How to Get and Give Good Bible Studies

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## ABC's of Giving Bible Studies

- Always present Jesus first...

*"The very first and the most important thing is to melt and subdue the soul by presenting our Lord Jesus Christ as the sinbearer, the sin-pardoning Savior, making the gospel as clear as possible." EV. 264*

*"The wonderful love of Christ will melt and subdue hearts, when the mere reiteration of doctrines would accomplish nothing." DA p. 826*



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## ABC's of Giving Bible Studies

- Reveal Truth Gradually...

*But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day. - Proverbs 4:18*



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## ABC's of Giving Bible Studies

- Make Regular Appeals

*"At the close of every meeting (and Bible study), decisions should be called for." 6T p. 64*



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## Categorize & Prioritize Interests

- All who show an interest and desire should be given the opportunity to study God's Word.
- Spend quality time with those who are "ripe" for God's word.
- Spend some time with people who are somewhat green, but be sure that you don't let them run you in circles.



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## Time Outline of a Bible Study

- 8-10 Minutes - Social Time
- 30-45 Minutes - Study Time
- 3-5 Minutes - Appeal
- Don't Stay longer than 1 hour to 1 hour and 15 minutes.



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## Giving the Study...

1. After the social time, have a short prayer before the study. Remember to keep it short and simple.
2. After the prayer, begin your study with a short introduction to the lesson. You can use a story related to the subject or just give a brief overview.
3. Proceed step by step through the Bible study. Present your material in a clear, progressive manner.



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## Giving the Study...

4. If you are using pre-made study guides, go question by question through the lesson. Ask the question and then look up the Bible text for the answer even if it is already in the lesson. It is important to open your Bible with them.
5. Be sure to add comments after each question to encourage interaction and discussion. Keep it short though. Try to summarize the comments from the lesson rather than reading them.



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## Giving the Study...

6. Use illustrations, stories, and personal testimonies to keep your study interesting.

7. Emphasize the most important points in the lesson. You should have 3-4 main points that you want them to remember the most. (7th day is the Sabbath, the dead know nothing, etc.)



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Bible studies are not intended to be comprehensive.

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## Law Study Key Points

- The 10 Commandments are God's eternal moral standard for humanity.



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## Law Study Key Points

- The 10 Commandments are God's eternal moral standard for humanity.
- The law points out our sin and leads us to Christ for salvation.



12



## Law Study Key Points

- God's grace, through faith, enables us to keep the commandments.



13



## Law Study Key Points

- God's grace, through faith, enables us to keep the commandments.
- God's end-time people demonstrate their loyalty to God by obeying His commandments.



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## Sabbath Study Key Points

- The Sabbath was instituted by Jesus at Creation.



15



## Sabbath Study Key Points

- The Sabbath was instituted by Jesus at Creation.
- God's people in both OT and NT times have always observed the Sabbath.



16



## Sabbath Study Key Points

- The Sabbath has never been changed.



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## Sabbath Study Key Points

- The Sabbath has never been changed.
- God's people living in the last days will show their loyalty by keeping the Sabbath.



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## Giving the Study...

8. Ask them occasional questions as you proceed to make sure they understand & to stimulate spiritual thoughts on the text. ("Is it clear to you from the Bible that the 7th day is the Sabbath? Does this make sense to you?")

**Apply truth to the heart and the life, not just the head!**



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## Giving the Study...

- A. "What does this text say to you?"
- B. "What do you think God wants us to know from this text?"
- C. "Do you see how the example of...applies to your life?"
- D. What changes do you sense God calling you to make in your life b/c of this text?"
- E. "How does following through with this bring us closer to Christ?"
- F. "If God wants us to do this, do you think that He can give us what we need to do it?"



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## Giving the Study...

9. Answer questions they may ask only as they relate to what you are studying.

10. Don't answer unrelated questions during the study that just satisfy curiosities. Answer these at a different time. ("Will my pet go to heaven?")



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## Giving the Study...

11. Stay focused. Avoid getting off the subject too much. Always bring it back to the study if the person talks too much.

("That's a great comment! I'm glad you are learning so much. Let's keep going in our study. Number 9 says...")



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## Giving the Study...

12. Avoid reading your notes. You don't want to be a boring teacher.

Be familiar with your notes so that you can talk to the person face to face.

You can refer to them for guidance, but don't read them. Go over them 4-5 times before your study.



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## Always Make an Appeal

13. At the end of your study, make an **appeal** to them and invite them to make a decision on what they have learned. If they aren't ready to make a decision, they either aren't convicted, or they are resisting conviction.

If they aren't convicted, they need more information. If they are convicted, you will need to use the methods from the decisions class.



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## R&H, August 30, 1892

“...the secret of our **success** and **power** as a people advocating advanced truth will be found in **making direct, personal appeals** to those who are interested, having unwavering reliance upon the Most High.



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## R&H, June 17, 1884

“A faithful performance of the duties assigned to his servants would drive every worker in the vineyard of the Lord to his closet in earnest intercession for divine aid. **The love of God in the heart will lead them to make earnest appeals...**”



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## Helpful Tips...

1. Have confidence in your study. Don't apologize for the word of God or for your lack of preparation or if you feel it went badly. Often, those are the best studies.
2. Take turns reading the Bible texts.
3. Smile, look people in the eye. Be excited and passionate. If you aren't excited, they won't be either.
4. Don't slump. Sit straight.



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## Evangelism, p. 179

“On a certain occasion, when Betterton, the celebrated actor, was dining with Dr. Sheldon, Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archbishop said to him,



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## Evangelism, p. 179

“Pray, Mr. Betterton, tell me why it is that you actors affect your audiences so powerfully by speaking of things imaginary.’ ‘My Lord,’ replied Betterton, ‘with due submission to Your Grace,



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## Evangelism, p. 179

“permit me to say that the reason is plain; it all lies in **the power of enthusiasm**. We on the stage speak of things **imaginary** as if they were **real**; and you in the pulpit speak of things **real** as if they were **imaginary**.”



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## Helpful Tips...

5. Speak clearly. Don't be mono-tone. Vary your voice according what you are saying. Don't shout in delicate moments.

6. Have clear objectives and accomplish them. Know which direction you are going. Be organized.

7. Trust that God is with you. It's not about what you are doing, it's about what He is doing! The Holy Spirit will lead you!



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## Helpful Tips...

8. Try to get a decision from a student as early as possible to accept Christ as their Savior.

9. Try to avoid asking them things like, “What do you think about the study or Do you agree?” Rather, use statements like, “do you see what the Bible says on this or can you see what God is asking us to do from this text?”

10. Realize that you don't have to know the answer to every question.



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## Helpful Tips...

11. Don't over prove your subject. 10-12 texts are enough. avoid the spiritual machine gun! Never tell all you know on a subject. Keep them wanting more.

12. Don't mention things that are hard to explain from the spirit of prophecy.

13. Be consistent with your Bible studies. this is VERY important!



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## Helpful Tips...

14. Be sure to salt the oats for the next studies.

15. Timing your studies before an evangelistic series...

16. As soon as someone learns the truth about the Sabbath, invite them to church!



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## Helpful Tips...

**What if they ask me a question that I don't know the answer to???**

*"That's a GREAT question! I'm so glad you asked. I don't know, but I will find the answer for you."*

OR

*"Why don't we each study it this week, and we will compare our answers next week."*



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## Helpful Tips...

**What if they ask me a question that is on a future topic?**

*"That's a great question! We have a subject coming up on that soon. It's better for us to cover these foundational subjects first. I don't want to ruin it for you, and a 5 minute answer won't be enough. Let's wait till the subject, ok? I promise it will be worth the wait!"*



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## Evangelism, p. 127

“There is **far more** being done by the universe of Heaven than we have **any idea of**, in preparing the way so that souls shall be converted.”



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## Evangelism, p. 127

“We want more of God; we do not want to feel that it is **our talking** and **our sermonizing** that is to do the work; we want to feel that unless the people are reached through God, they never will be reached.”



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## Testimonies, vol. 4, p. 132

“If you fail **ninety-nine times** in a hundred, but succeed in saving **the one soul** from ruin, you have done a noble deed for the Master's cause.”



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## Christ's Object Lessons, p. 363

“When we give ourselves wholly to God and in our work follow His directions, **He makes Himself responsible** for its accomplishment. He would not have us conjecture as to the success of our **honest** endeavors.”



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## Christ's Object Lessons, p. 363

"Not once should we even think of failure. We are to co-operate with One who knows no failure."



## Gospel Workers, p. 193

**"Your success will not depend so much upon your knowledge and accomplishments, as upon your ability to find your way to the heart."**

