

Lesson One

The Bible in a Nut Shell

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Nowhere in the history of mankind where you can find a book that is vastly and profoundly touch lives of every person regardless of age and status, from every tongue, nation, culture, and generation. Only the Bible accomplishes this feat.

The success of the Bible is not only measured by its fruit and content, but most especially by the source from which it comes from and the purpose by which it was given. This study focuses on two issues:

- I. What is the Bible?
- II. Why is the Bible given to us?

I. WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

- A. The Bible is the Word of God written in the language of men by human hands.
- B. 2 Peter 1:20 Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. 21 For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.
- C. You need a house and you ask a builder to build you a house and he did. After the house is built, you are not the one who built it. On the other hand though the builder built the house, yet he could not lay a claim of ownership to it because he does not own it. This perfectly illustrates the idea that the Bible is the Word of God written in the language of men by human hands.

II. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE BIBLE? 2 Timothy 3:14-17

A. The Bible shows us the way of salvation – v.14-15.

It gives us the wisdom to see that salvation is through faith in Jesus Christ. Jesus said in John 14:6 *“I am the Way the Truth and the Life. No one come into the Father except through me.*

B. The Bible shows us how to live a fruitful life: Equipping – v. 16-17

Process of Equipping

1. **Teaching** - This is a process by which we are not just hearing but learning God’s Principles in every aspect of our lives.
2. **Rebuking** – This a process by which God strongly commanded us to stop ignoring His principles and start living by them because of an impending danger that falls on us if we don’t. *Proverbs 27:5 Better is open rebuke than hidden love.*

Titus 1:10 *For there are many rebellious people, mere talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision group.*

¹¹ *They must be silenced, because they are ruining whole households by teaching things they ought not to teach - - and that for the sake of dishonest gain.* ¹² *Even one of their own prophets has said, “Cretans are always liars, evil brutes, lazy gluttons.”* ¹³ *This testimony is true. Therefore, rebuke them sharply, so that they will be sound in the faith* ¹⁴ *and will pay no attention to Jewish myths or to the commands of those who reject the truth.* ¹⁵ *To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are corrupted and do not believe, nothing is pure. In fact,*

both their minds and consciences are corrupted. ¹⁶ They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny Him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good.

- 3. Correcting** - This is a process by which God through the Holy Spirit and the Holy Scriptures clearly points to us the truth of the things we do that we do that we thought right, after which he shows us the right way. **Proverbs 14:12** *There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.*
- 4. Training in Righteousness** – This is the process by which we learn the steps of doing and saying the right thing at the right time and at the right place.

1 Corinthians 9:25 *Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.*

1 Timothy 4:8 *For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.*

Purpose of Equipping

To prepare those who received salvation to do every good deeds.

Psalms 119:105-106

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. ¹⁰⁶
I have taken an oath and confirmed it, that I will follow
your righteous laws.