

Discussion Questions & Quotes For June 30 thru July 6, 2024

—“To put it clearly, we must accept God as He is revealed in the Bible, whether He suits our preferences or not.” —**Erwin W. Lutzer**

—“Whatever else may be said about [the] home, it is the bottom line of life, the anvil upon which attitudes and convictions are hammered out. It is the place where life’s bills come due, the single most influential force in our earthly existence. No price tag can adequately reflect its value. No gauge can measure its ultimate influence ... for good or ill. It is at home, among family members, that we come to terms with circumstances. It is here life makes up its mind.” —**Chuck Swindoll**

—“I’ve experienced His presence in the deepest hell that man can create. ... I have tested the promises of the Bible, and believe me, you can count on them.” —**Corrie ten Boom**

—“In our prayers we talk to God, in our Bible study God talks to us, and we had better let God do most of the talking.” —**D. L. Moody**

—““The Bible is the greatest of all books; to study it is the noblest of all pursuits; to understand it, the highest of all goals.” —**Charles C. Ryrie**

—“God wants to communicate with you in the 21st century. He wrote His message in a book. He asks you to come and study that book for three compelling reasons: it’s essential for growth. It’s essential for maturity. It’s essential for equipping you, training you, so that you might be an available, clean, sharp instrument in His hands to accomplish His purposes. So the real question confronting you now is: How can you afford not to be in God’s Word?” —**Howard G. Hendricks**

—“Scripture suggests that meditating on the Word of God can have an always-on effect of peace and strength in difficult times.”

—**David Jeremiah**

—“The Bible is the only book whose author is always present when one reads it.” —**a quote from many Bible teachers**

—“Mark Twain once said that he wasn’t troubled by the things written in the Bible that he couldn’t understand, but he was bothered by those things that he did understand. It’s interesting to me that even though many people in our society don’t seem to acknowledge or accept any aspect of God’s authority, their anger against our biblical views & values suggests that they are troubled by things they don’t understand.” —**GAD**

—Some Questions for Personal Reflection & Discussion—

—Please grab your Bible & prepare to study about how we can give God’s Word the appropriate attention it deserves. In our fast-paced society, it’s become too easy for us to become distracted, disengaged, deceived, or disinterested in what the Bible has to offer us. That’s ironic because the Bible provides us with the answers we need to solve this dilemma.

—**1}** *What we read in Nehemiah 8–10 describes an amazing example of what’s supposed to take place whenever God’s Word is taught: people become influenced & impacted from hearing God speak to them and they begin to respond in obedience. How can we develop the type of responsive hearts that are necessary to benefit from God’s Word? What are some hindrances that we might hold us back from responding in an obedient manner? Hebrews 5:11–14 refers to people who have become “dull of hearing, unwilling to listen, or too lazy to understand.” On a personal level, & speaking in a practical way, how does this happen?*

—**2**— Sometimes we can become overwhelmed by the amount of information that our minds process. This makes it easy for us to become tempted to simply go thru the motions or make it look like we’re giving God’s Word the appropriate attention it deserves when we’re not really as serious about it as we want others to think we are. Considering this, what does Psalm 119:9–11 & Psalm 1:1–3 teach us that might correct this problem? What steps can a person take to overcome this concern?

—**3**— *Every faithful follower of Christ should recognize that God desires our obedience. However, God doesn’t want us to become obsessed with following rules & regulations in a prideful way that ignores that work of His indwelling Spirit in a self-sufficient way. In Galatians 5:1, 13–24, what role does the Holy Spirit fulfill in helping us obey God’s Word?*

—**4**— This week’s sermon & study emphasized the idea that God’s method for enabling us to obey Him involves obtaining His wisdom. **Wisdom is the God-given skill or ability to live sensibly within the guidelines of God’s will.** It’s not based on human intelligence because it’s a result of Holy Spiritual guidance. Please carefully read Proverbs 1–3 and pick out principles given in this passage that help us recognize the benefits and blessings of godly wisdom. Example: **“The fear (respect & reverence) for God’s authority over our lives is the foundation for obedience.** Then once you’ve found several principles, jot down a personal spiritual goal that would strengthen your relationship with the Lord & help you become more committed to honoring Him.