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## Studying to Show Ourselves Approved: The Necessity of Individual, Corporate and Consistent Bible Study

*A Commentary by Jason Curry*



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Unfortunately, Christians are often misled by people, who in some cases, are sincerely trying to help other Christians in their walk with God. One of the reasons why we are often misled by those who are teaching or preaching the word of God is because we have not taken the time to study the bible for ourselves. I remember going over my friend's house a few years ago, and I noticed that there was more dust on top of his bible, then there was on the front porch outside of his house. He had a very nice looking bible which sat on the top of his dresser. After seeing that the bible had not been used for some time, I was tempted to tell a joke by saying: "Brother, is the bible for reading or is it just for decoration? What would it take to get you to open this book?" However, in an effort to keep the friendship intact, and eat some more of the great chicken that his mom was

cooking, and just decided to bite my tongue and to keep the peace. Finding a daily and consistent time to ready, study, memorial and internalize the word of God is essential for those to be called to lead, teacher, preach or minister to the people of God. In the Old Testament, specifically Psalm 119 and verse 105, King David says: "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." Paul picks up this theme about the importance of the word of God in the New Testament, for his writes in the fifteenth verse of his second letter to Timothy : "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Studying the word of God will assist us in avoiding the persistent perils of "prosperity preaching." God loves affluent and impoverished people. Some people do not have a num-

ber of material possessions; however, their financial reality does not mean that they are somehow outside of the love, grace, influence of God. Studying the word of God helps to remind us how God has moved in the lives of people throughout salvation history. Through God's word we are reminded that sometime kings and prophets can share common ground. When Nehemiah saw the walls torn down he wept. The King allowed him to rebuild the wall and ultimately God was glorified. Through God word were are reminded of miracles; thousands were fed with manna and Moses led with a cloud by day and fire by night. A daily devotion to God through bible is essential for growth in our spiritual live. Let us continue to study to show ourselves approved unto God.