

GOD'S LOVE LETTER TO US

Imagine we have a friend who wrote us a special letter. In the letter our friend tells us how much he loves us. He also shares many things that can help us through any situation we may face. The letter contains guidelines that will help us avoid many heartaches and troubles. If we read this letter and get to know what it says, we will also get to know the heart of our friend. This friend is God and the letter is the Bible. In his lesson we will learn how important the Bible is for our new life.

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THINK ABOUT GOD'S WORD OFTEN

“Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.”

JOSHUA 1:8

What instructions does this verse give us about the Book of the Law?

What is the Book of the Law?

What do you think it means to “not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth?”

Why do you think God is concerned about the Book of the Law being absent from our mouth?

If the Book of the Law is present in our mouth, what do you think we have been doing with it?

What does it mean to “meditate?”

How often does the verse say we should meditate on the Bible?

What are some things we might have to do to meditate on the Bible?

According to the verse, what is the reason for meditating on the Bible?

Based on the verse, what is the condition for our prosperity and success?

What does it mean to “be careful?”

How can we be careful with the Bible?

What do you think God means when he says, “you will be prosperous and successful?”

TAKE GOD’S WORD LIKE A BABY

Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation . . .

I PETER 2:1,2

What does it mean to rid oneself of something?

What do the verses say we should rid from our life?

Read the definitions of the following words:

malice: *The desire to harm others, or to see others suffer*

deceit: *deception, falseness, misrepresentation*

hypocrisy: *to act in a way that is different than you believe or proclaim*

envy: *to resent someone because they have something you want*

slander: *saying bad things about someone else*

Why do you think God wants us to rid ourselves of these things?

How do you think one would rid themselves of these things?

What are Christians compared to in these verses?

What happens if we don't feed a baby?

What do the verses say newborn babies crave?

What is "spiritual milk?"

Why do we need spiritual milk?

T R U S T G O D T O T E A C H U S

"But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you."

JOHN 14:26

Who does the verse say the Father will send to us?

Since the above verse is quoted from Jesus, in whose name will the Counselor come?

Why do you think he comes in the name of Jesus? (Read John 14:6)

What does it say he will do when he comes?

What will he teach us?

What do you think is meant by “all things?”

Of what will he remind us?

If the Holy Spirit is the one who teaches us and reminds us of God’s word, what do you think we should do before we study or read the Bible?

ASSIGNMENT

In this lesson, we discovered that for us to grow we must spend time every day in the Bible, God’s word. Your assignment this week is to spend a few minutes every day reading the Bible, using the method below.

Read James 1:1-4 and complete the following sentences:

One thing God could be saying to me through these verses is . . .

As I think through the next 24 hours, one way I could obey this is . . .

Make this a matter of prayer by giving God a written request for help and a written thank you for showing you what he wants you to do.

Dear God, help me to . . .

Dear God, thank you for . . .

Duplicate these steps every day this week. If you miss a day, don't worry, just try again. Using the book of James, try 4 or 5 verses each day.

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