

# "STUDY the Word"

Sunday, January 29, 2023, 10:30 a.m.

Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI

Pastor Jonathan DeCou

*Acts 17:10-15 & Psalm 119 (Selected verses)*

**BIG IDEA:** I must STUDY the Word in order to master the Word.

*"The people here were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, since they received the word with eagerness and examined the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so."*

*Acts 17:11 (CSB)*



## Why we study the Word of God.

- God's Word originates and culminates in a spirit of praise and worship.
- God's Word puts my life in perspective.
- God's Word teaches me that to die well, I must live well.
- God's Word is good and good for me.
- God's Word helps me say what I mean and mean what I say.
- God's Word lovingly instructs me.
- God's Word blesses my life.



## How we study the Word of God.

- Observation: What does it say?
  - Remember the "5 Ws & the H".

- Interpretation: What does it mean?
  - Interpret literally, historically, grammatically, & contextually.
- Application: What must I do about it?
  - Focus on key relationships.
    - My relationship with God.
    - My relationship with others.
    - My relationship with myself.
  - **NOTE:** See *PJD's list of resources for personal Bible study*.

**BIG IDEA:** I must STUDY the Word in order to master the Word.

**READ:** Acts 17:10-15 & Psalm 119 (*the selected verses from the message*)

**THINK:** Think about why & how to STUDY the Word, then ask yourself these questions: *How do you prepare yourself to encounter God's Word? What is your general response to the ministry of the Word of God? How has the Bible helped you understand your life circumstances better? Do you live with "the end" in view? How so? When have you found Scripture to be "good"? How does the Bible help you express yourself with authenticity & integrity? When did God lovingly lead you because of your diligent study of His Word? What is the #1 blessing you've received from God's Word in the last year? The last month? The last week?*

**DO:** In terms of time, consistency, and intensity, how would you rate your Bible study? Is it at all like the Bereans? What steps can I take today to better my study of God's Word?