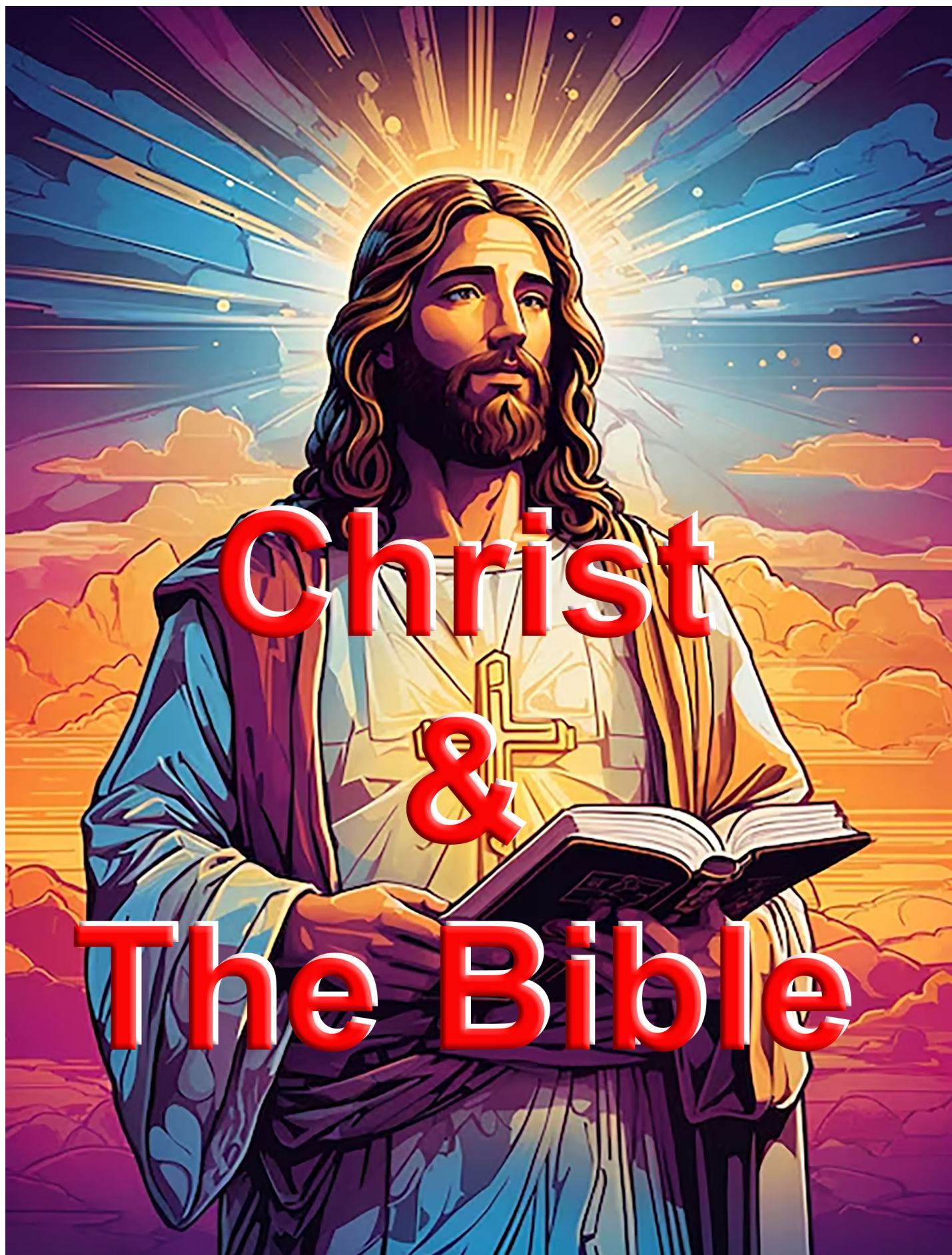




Christ & the Bible

This is a study of the heart. The purpose of this class is to grow in our relationship with Jesus. It is not about religion but about our relationship with God through Jesus. We define faith as living in an intimate relationship with Jesus.

John 14	19	Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live.
John 14	20	On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.
John 14	21	Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them."

1. How important is it to know Christ?

The Bible Says:

Philippians 3	07	But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ.
Philippians 3	08	What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ

From this we Learn: Nothing compares in importance with knowing Christ.

2. What does it mean to "know" Christ?

The Bible Says:

John 10:14-15	27	But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ
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From this we Learn: To know Christ means not merely to know about Him. It means to know Him -to know Him from personal and intimate experience (Heart-knowledge, faith)

Christ & the Bible

3. Why is knowing Christ all-important??

The Bible Says:

Ephesians 1	07	In him (Christ) we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace
John 17	03	Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.
Romans 8	32	He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

From this we Learn: By knowing Christ, we receive
(A) Forgiveness of sins
(B) Eternal Life
(C) All Things

4. What are some of these "all things"?

The Bible Says:

John 14	27	But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ
Philippians 4	04	Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles
Philippians 4	13	I can do all this through him who gives me strength.
Philippians 4	21	Greet all God's people in Christ Jesus. The brothers and sisters who are with me send greetings.

From this we Learn: Christ, God Gives Us:
(A) Peace of Heart
(B) Lasting Joy
(C) Strength
(D) Meaning and Purpose of Life. Blessed Assurance

5. What, then must be our highest ambition?

The Bible Says:

Philippians 3	10	<u>I want to know Christ</u> —yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death
2 nd Peter 3:18	13	But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever!

From this we Learn: It must be our chief concern
(A) To know Christ
(B) To learn to know Him better day by day

6. Which book has God given us for this purpose?

Christ & the Bible

The Bible Says:

2 Tim. 3:15-16

15 and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

From this we Learn: God has given us the Bible, the inerrant Word of God, through which we are brought to the saving knowledge of Christ

7. Who wrote the Bible?

The Bible Says:

2nd Peter 1

21 For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

From this we Learn: The Bible was written by men whom God chose for this purpose. (The Old Testament was written by the prophets, the New Testament by the evangelists and apostles.)

8. How did God give us the Bible through these men?

The Bible Says:

2nd Peter 1

21 For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

2 Timothy 3

16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,.

1 Corinthians 2

13 This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words.

[Or Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual]

From this we Learn: (A) God "moved, "or impelled, the prophets, apostles, and evangelists to write.

(B) "All Scripture" was "inspired" - "breathed into"-the sacred writers.

God put into their minds the very thoughts which they expressed and the very words which they wrote.
(Verbal inspiration.)

(C) Because it was thus verbally inspired, the whole Bible is the Word of God.

Christ & the Bible

9. Of what, then, are we assured?

The Bible Says:

John 17	17	Sanctify them by <i>[Or them to live in accordance with]</i> the truth; your word is truth.
Philippians 4	04	Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles
Philippians 4	13	I can do all this through him who gives me strength.
Philippians 4	21	Greet all God's people in Christ Jesus. The brothers and sisters who are with me send greetings.

From this we Learn: Because it is the Word of God, we know that the Bible is true, without error, absolutely trustworthy - the sole authority in all matters of Christian faith and life.

10. How can I personally, in my heart, be convinced that the teachings of Christ and the Bible are divinely true?

The Bible Says:

John 7	17	Anyone who chooses to do the will of God will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own.
John 6	29	Jesus answered , "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent."
	40	For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day."

From this we Learn: If I believe in Christ, I shall know, from my own living experience, that the teachings of Christ and the Bible are divinely true. I shall need no further proof.

Christ & the Bible

11. How are we to use the Bible?

The Bible Says:

John 5:39	39	You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me
Luke 11	28	He replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it."
Luke 2	19	But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.
John 14	23	Jesus replied, "Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will come to them and make our home with them."

From this we Learn: We should:

(A) Read and study the Word of God; 15 minutes a day!

(B) Hear it

(C) Believe it;

(D) Live it.

How can I personally, in my heart, be convinced that the teachings of Christ and the Bible are divinely true?

The Bible Says:

2 Timothy 3	14	But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it,
2 Timothy 3	15	and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ."
2 Timothy 3	16	All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,
2 Timothy 3	17	so that the servant of God ^[a] may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

From this we Learn: If I believe in Christ, I shall know, from my own living experience, that the teachings of Christ and the Bible are divinely true. I shall need no further proof.

**IT IS NOT ABOUT RELIGION,
BUT IT IS ALL ABOUT RELATIONSHIP!**