



WELLSPRING CHURCH

LEARN – Study

Introduction:

Theology and study matter because what we think affects how we love and how we act. Through studying the Scriptures we gain insights into God, human nature and the true meaning of life.

Scriptures:

Read and discuss Colossians 2v8 and Ephesians 4v14-15

Reflection Questions:

1. In Matthew 22, Jesus tells us that we are to love God with our heart, soul and mind. How do you love God with your mind? What might that look like?
2. Paul is concerned in Colossians 2v8 that the Colossian Church is being “taken captive” by “deceptive philosophy.” How might study be a helpful way to solidify our mind and life in the wisdom of God?
3. In Romans 10v2, Paul makes the case that some people have a “zeal for God, but not according to knowledge.” What might that look like? How might study help us avoid knowledge-less zeal?
4. All Christians are theologians—in that, all Christians have ideas about God. Anselm, a theologian of the church, once defined Christian theology as “faith seeking understanding.” What are the questions you most desire to understand? How might you seek understanding?

Experiment: (Choose one)

1. From the list (see appendix), select one essay to study. Read it. After reading the essay, journal whatever thoughts and questions you might have. Do you find yourself coming alive? What did you learn that you did not previously know?
2. Pick a book from the New Testament to read and study it in more depth over the next 30 days. To gain depth, consider watching the book's Bible project video and purchasing a copy of NT Wright's “For Everyone” commentary on that book of the Bible. For example on Amazon.com, search “Matthew For Everyone” or “Ephesians for Everyone.”

Pod Discussion:

1. As you listened to the podcast (watched the video), what struck you or stood out to you?
2. What was your experience of the experiment like? Was it enjoyable? Uncomfortable? Did you notice anything about yourself, God or the world?
3. Is God inviting you to change anything in the way you do your life?

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Appendix – Essays to Read (pick 1 or 2)

1. [Bible Project Themes Notes](#) (pick one)
2. [Biblical Covenants Article](#)
3. [Jesus and the Identity of God Article](#)
4. [The Bible as a Unified Story](#)
5. [Tracing Atonement Through Scriptures](#)
6. [What is the Gospel?/What are the Gospels?](#)

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