

Here is some Pre-Reading to do before we start Session Two

Session 2 - The Right Heart: Prayer, Humility, and Obedience

Before the second session, please read through this short introduction and the Bible passages listed below. You do not need to write full answers, and this is not a test. Just read slowly, think honestly, and notice anything that stands out to you.

Main Thought

- We come to the Bible with prayer, humility, and a willingness to obey.

The Bible is God's Word, so we do not come to it merely to collect ideas, prove what we already think, or gather information. We come to listen. The right method matters, but the right heart matters first.

When we open Scripture, we should ask God to open our eyes, correct what is false, strengthen what is weak, and lead us in truth. Bible study is not about putting ourselves above the Word, but sitting under the Word.

This does not mean we must feel strong or confident before we read. We come as people who need God's help. That is why prayer, humility, and obedience belong at the beginning.

A Word of Encouragement

You do not need to impress God before you come to His Word. You come because you need Him. If a passage exposes weakness, sin, fear, pride, or unbelief, that does not mean you have failed. It means God's Word is doing its work.

The Lord is patient with His people. He corrects us because He is faithful. He gives grace to the humble, wisdom to those who ask, and help to those who draw near to Him.

A willing heart can learn. A proud heart resists. Our aim is not to prove we already know, but to be taught by the Lord.

Please Read These Passages Before Session Two

1. Psalm 119:18

As you read, simply notice:

- What the writer asks God to do.
- What this teaches us about needing God's help.
- How this prayer might help you before reading Scripture.

2. James 1:21-25

As you read, simply notice:

- How the Word should be received.
- What warning is given about hearing without doing.
- What blessing is connected with continuing in the Word.

3. Isaiah 66:1-2

As you read, simply notice:

- What kind of person God says He looks upon.

- How “poor and contrite spirit” speaks to humility.
- What it means to tremble at God’s Word.

4. John 7:16-17

As you read, simply notice:

- What Jesus says about His teaching.
- How willingness to do God’s will is connected to understanding.
- Why obedience is part of Bible study, not just the result of it.

5. James 4:6-8

As you read, simply notice:

- What God gives to the humble.
- What we are called to do.
- What promise is given when we draw near to God.

One Simple Thing to Bring next time we catch up.

Before Session Two, write down one short prayer in response to this sentence:

- Lord, as I come to Your Word, please help me...

It does not need to be long. It just needs to be honest.

Closing Thought

Faithful Bible study begins with a teachable heart.

God is not asking us to pretend we are strong. He invites us to come humbly, ask for wisdom, and listen with a willingness to obey.

The Lord has not given us His Word to discourage us, but to lead us in truth, reveal Christ more clearly, and shape us to walk faithfully before Him.