

CLASS 9

Using the Tools of a Leader: Study and Meditation

CLASS OVERVIEW

In this class we will review:

- The need for reading, studying regularly and deeply meditating on what you are learning.
- The necessity of thoroughly understanding Church doctrine.
- The importance of knowing and "holding fast" to correct Bible and Church teachings.
- Problems associated with NOT clearly understanding scripture and Church teachings.

Opening Group Question:

- How do you help ensure that you, as a leader, will not become deceived and in turn deceive others?

I. Introduction

1 Thes 5:21—Prove all things (examine, evaluate), hold fast that which is good (KJV).

Although we must continue to "grow in grace and knowledge" (2 Peter 3:18) and come to a deeper understanding of God's way of life and His truth, once we have thoroughly proved something to be correct—it cannot then become incorrect! So it is with God's truth—if it was right initially, it will always be right.

James 1:17—No variation or shadow of turning for God.

Hebrews 13:8-9—Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Do not be carried about/away with various and strange doctrines.

1 Tim 3:15—The Church of God is the pillar and foundation of truth.

So, it is important *not only* to study the Bible, but also the written material which Christ has guided His Church to publish.

Eph. 2:19-21 Foundation of apostles, prophets, Jesus Christ, John 8:31 Abide
Ultimately then, if we are to be spiritually solid, dedicated, and godly leaders, we must have proven all things—knowing what we believe and why we believe it. We must be unwavering in our conviction, yet still able to grow spiritually.

in Jesus' word.

II. Proving All Things and Holding Fast**Group Question:**

- What things do we need in order to prove and then hold fast to the truth?

2 Tim 3:14-16—"But you **must** continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, (v.15) and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus (v.16). All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness..."