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TO READ OR NOT TO READ – THAT IS THE QUESTION

Recently I put a question out on social media asking if the readers had ever read the bible all the way through. For the most part, the answer was yes. Some said they had not but were under conviction for not doing so and would change.

One answer was very interesting, to say the least. The response, and I quote it here, “Nope, I read what God leads me to read, and that’s ok.” I found that answer shocking. I do not see that that as an excuse to not study the word of God by reading it.

Psalms 119 is full of great advice along these lines. Verse 130 says, **“The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.”** That in itself would encourage me to read the bible. Verse 11 says, **“Thy word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against thee.”** The more we read the word, the wiser we become and know what is right and wrong.

The word of God is our instruction manual. It gives us advice as husbands, wives, children, pastors, teachers, kings and more. It teaches us what is right and what is wrong. If we do not read the “textbook” for life, we can be sure to fail in life’s trials.

Every time I read the word of God, I learn something new. The Word of God is fresh every day because it is alive. It is **sharper than any two-edged sword** that divides the thoughts and intents of the heart. (Hebrews 4:12.) It brings conviction when we are tempted to sin. It enables us to be victorious through our trials as we recite verses against the enemy that comes to **“steal, kill, and destroy.”** (John 10:10.)

I definitely am praying for the person that deems reading and studying the word not necessary, because tests will come that will surely require great faith. We must remember that **faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God** (Romans 10:17.)

Many people died getting the Word of God to the body of Christ. We must never treat it as if reading it does not matter. It does matter and can be the difference between life and death for the one that puts the Word in their heart.