

Where can I look in the Bible to get information that will get people, (especially Youth), interested in returning to our Bible Study classes more often?

Thank you for writing such a provocative question. It marks the great battle that we must all fight if we are to save our children from the enticements of the world.

The scriptures require the study of God's word. Therefore, we must build a desire to study God's word among our young people and all of our people. Paul advised a young man named Timothy to study, and we should make sure our young people know what this teaching is. Perhaps by understanding what Paul told Timothy, they will be inspired to follow his example

Timothy was told to study in order to be approved by God.

Paul wrote the young man, Timothy, in 2 Tim 2:15, " Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth." In addition, he taught Timothy to resist the desires of youth and pursue righteousness in 2 Tim 2:22-23:

22 Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. 23 Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels.

In addition to these commands to study and pursue righteousness, there are examples and commands to all of us to examine the Scriptures and attend the meetings of the church. Our young people will benefit from examining the Scriptures daily as they did in Berea in Acts 17:11. "11 Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true." Also, we should teach them to attend meetings of the church as we were commanded in Heb 10:25, "25 Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Attending Bible class is like attending school, it is easy to get in the habit of missing; but consistent attendance will make it hard to miss.

Parents must take the lead in instilling a desire in young people to study the scriptures and attend the meetings.

Before Paul ever knew him, Timothy was taught by his mother and grandmother. In 2 Tim 1:5, we learn that these family members were faithful examples for Timothy, "5 I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also." According to 2 Tim 3:14-15, Timothy learned the holy Scriptures:

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, 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.

Perhaps there is no greater influence in the lives of young people than that of the father. Paul commanded fathers in Eph 6:4, "4 Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord." Father should make sure their children get training in the Scriptures.

With young people, attending and studying is a question of discipline.

If you want children to attend and take seriously the attendance to the meetings and the study of the scriptures, you must enlist the aid of the fathers and mothers, who must assert their influence

on their children to follow in this direction. Of course, fathers and mothers must also attend and study to set the right example. The Hebrew letter summarized this principle of discipline in Heb 12:5-11:

5 And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as sons:

"My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline,
and do not lose heart when he rebukes you,
6 because the Lord disciplines those he loves,
and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son."

7 Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father? 8 If you are not disciplined (and everyone undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons. 9 Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of our spirits and live! 10 Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in his holiness. 11 No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

Conclusion

Isaac Watts wrote the hymn, *How Shall the Young Secure Their Hearts*. The "holy Book shall guide our youth" should become the prayer of all moms, dads, church leaders, and members.

How shall the young secure their hearts
And guard their lives from sin?
Thy Word the choicest rules imparts
To keep the conscience clean.

"Tis like the sun, a heavenly light,
That guides us all the day,
And through the dangers of the night
A lamp to lead our way.

The starry heavens Thy rule obey,
The earth maintains her place;
And these Thy servants, night and day,
Thy skill and power express.

But still Thy Law and Gospel, Lord,
Have lessons more divine;
Not earth stands firmer than Thy Word,
Nor stars so nobly shine.

Thy Word is everlasting truth;
How pure is every page!
That holy Book shall guide our youth
And well support our age.