

## Homework Recap

Week 2 we read a chapter of the Bible every day.

*Discussion:*

What did you read?

Did you read every day? Why/ Why not?

Was this new to you?

What did you like most?

What did you like least?

Did you journal as well?

Did you find that this was something you could do going forward?

What could help make this a part of your daily life?

## Stepping In

*Week 2: The Kiddie Pool*

PROFILE OF SEEKER

•*Assurance is the goal*

•*What can God do for me?*

•*Saved & Loved are key goals*

•*Jesus Loves Me! Or Jesus On Board! bumper stickers*

•*Religion is what they think they are missing; Jesus sounds really great*

•*Bible is foreign to them, except for stuff about happiness & fulfillment*

•*Don't know how to differentiate between Biblical and Unbiblical (very dangerous time!)*

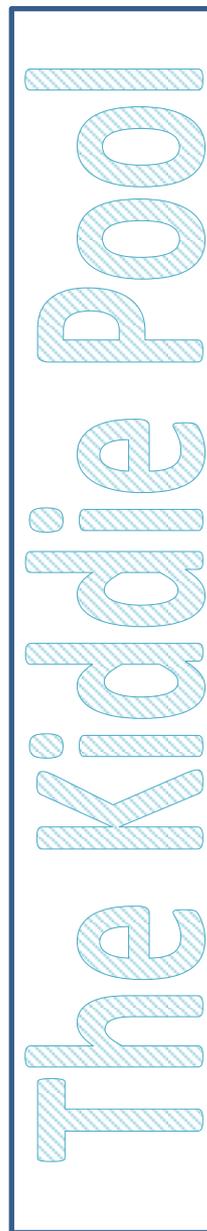
Matthew 13:5-6 says of these kinds of people, "Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root."

Jesus says these are the ones who "hear the word and at once receives it with joy... But they have no root and when trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away."

Many times, they will convert and become "Christian," and start coming to church and getting involved. They will look like they are "on-fire."

Unfortunately, this can wear off when the troubles of the world come to bear, including friends and family members who question Christianity. ("Did God really say?...")

This is decision time. Will they revert or move forward?



## Why Should We Read the Bible? p3

The short answer: The Bible Tells Us To.

In our modern world, we spend a lot of time telling people what we think, telling people that they are wrong, correcting people and living life how we think is right.

The fact is that we all do this all the time. Christian or not.

The response I hear is always something like, “Who says you’re right?”

How do we really know what is right or wrong?  
What should be taught or corrected? How to really live righteously?

We need a standard.

We have a standard: the Bible.

Paul says in 2 Timothy 3:16 that, “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.”

Scripture is the standard.

Let’s say we study to know right from wrong.  
What’s the point?

Paul continues with the point in the very next verse, “...so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

The point of being righteous and knowing good and evil isn’t just to expand our mental capabilities. It is to do good works.

“For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do” (Eph 2:10).

God made us for good works. But we get side tracked sometimes because we aren’t going to the source – to God’s word, the Bible.

Joshua 1:8 says, “Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night...”

Why? “...so that you may be careful to do everything written in it.”

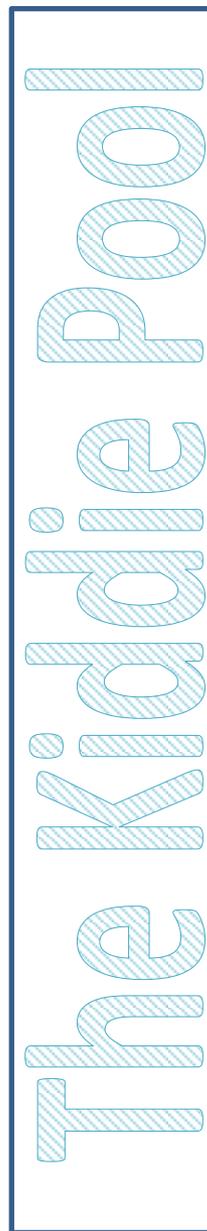
We gotta read the Bible to know right from wrong so that we can do good works that God created us for.

### Homework

This week we are moving from reading to *READING* the Bible. It’s time to dive in.

It is one thing to hear or read a story. It’s another to really understand what’s going on. To rightly divide the word of truth. (2 Tim 2:15)

How can we do that?



When reading the Bible, we need to STOP.

We do this by asking four questions in a memorable acronym from Frank Turek's book *Stealing from God*:

**S – Situation?** What's the historical situation or the big picture? Where are they? What are they doing?

**T – Type?** What type of literature is this? Poetry? Historical? Epistle/Teaching? Prophecy? Apocalyptic? Wisdom? Law?

**O – Object?** Who is the object of the passage? Everyone? Specific people? Ancient Israel? You and me?

**P – Prescriptive?** Is this passage prescriptive (something we have to do) or is it descriptive of an historic event?

*Let's try it:*

"Make peace with me and come out to me. Then each of you will eat fruit from your own vine and fig tree and drink water from your own cistern, until I come and take you to a land like your own—a land of grain and new wine, a land of bread and vineyards, a land of olive trees and honey. Choose life and not death!" (2 Kings 18:31, 32)

S – The king of Assyria has besieged Jerusalem. The king sent some emissaries to yell up over the gates to the people to try to get them to NOT listen to the prophet Hezekiah and to open the gates and surrender.

T – Historical. This is chronicling an actual event.

O – The object of this passage are the ancient Israelites in Jerusalem.

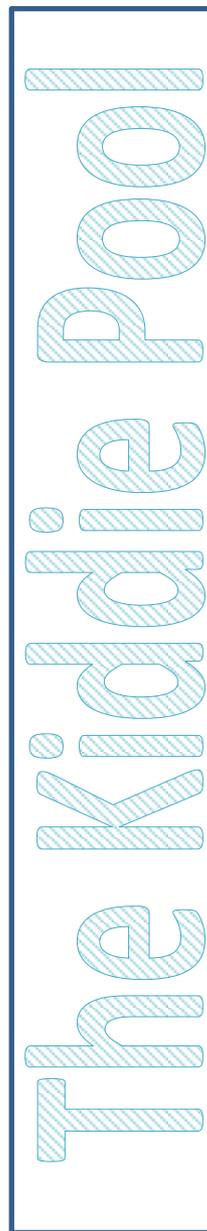
P – This is descriptive. It is telling us what happened.

Would this be a good meme?

Context is very important. Without looking deeper into this passage we don't know whether or not we should do this, if it is for us, etc.

Over the next week, I've gathered 6 more of these passages on the back of this page. (One Sabbath rest kept!) Ask the four questions of each of them and we will discuss at next week's class.

*Next week: Week 4 – The Shallow End. Where we meet the immature Christian who prefers to drink milk than to eat the meat of the Gospel.*



**1. 2 Chronicles 7:14**

S—

T—

O—

P—

**2. Matthew 6:33**

S—

T—

O—

P—

**3. Proverbs 18:10**

S—

T—

O—

P—

**4. Philippians 4:13**

S—

T—

O—

P—

**5. Jeremiah 29: 11**

S—

T—

O—

P—

**6. 1 Corinthians 14:34**

S—

T—

O—

P—

