

MAKING THE MOST OF THE TEACHING PERIOD

Take Inventory

Check the average amount of time you feel is actually devoted to Bible study each Sunday morning in your class.

- 10 min. 20 min. 30 min.
 40 min. 50 min. 60 min.

How is the rest of the time used?

- _____ _____
 _____ _____

How can you maximize your Bible teaching time?

- _____ _____
 _____ _____

Consider the Importance of the Bible Study Hour

- $24 \times 7 =$ _____ hours in one week.
 $168 - 167 =$ _____ hour spent in Bible study each Sunday morning. In one year of perfect Sunday School attendance a person will be exposed to _____ hours of Bible study.
 $24 \times 365 =$ _____ hours in one year!

In light of the time most people devote to Bible study, who or what is shaping their worldview?

- _____

John Phillips, Bible scholar and Christian author, said the following.

“Nobody ever mastered the Bible by occasionally opening it and reading a random verse or two. Nobody ever mastered it by listening to someone else preach, no matter how gifted that person might be. The only way to master this Book is to study it as diligently as a doctor studies medicine or as an astronomer studies the stars. What makes us think there is some magic formula for mastering the Bible, a special unction that makes up for mental laziness? If we studied our subjects at school or the specifics of our profession as carelessly as we so often study the Bible we would be tossed out of school or fired.”

*“making the most of your time,
because the days are evil.”*
Ephesians 5:16

Some interesting beliefs held by Americans in regard to the Bible

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While millions believe the Bible is accurate in its recording of information, a substantial number of adults do not believe that all of the information is relevant for today. One out of every five adults (18%) contend that one of the renowned portions of the Bible – the Ten Commandments – is not relevant for people living today.

12% of adults believe that the name of Noah’s wife was Joan of Arc.

Three-quarters of Americans believe that the Bible teaches that God helps those who help themselves.

Half of all adults (49%) believe that the Bible teaches that money is the root of all evil. One-third (37%) disagree with this contention. The actual teaching indicates that it is the love of money that is the root of all evil.

Among Bible readers, the average amount of time spent reading the Bible during an entire week is 52 minutes.