



## **INTRODUCTION: Foundations for Fantastic Studies**

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someone.

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# Foundations for Fantastic Studies

**NOTE:** Go over this outline alone before you study with someone else. Keep these principles in mind as you're leading a study of your own.

## **1. The goal of each study is life change - not simply a transfer of information.**

### 2 Timothy 3:16-17

<sup>16</sup> "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

### 1 Timothy 1:5-7 (NLT)

<sup>5</sup> "The purpose of my instruction is that all the Christians there would be filled with love that comes from a pure heart, a clear conscience, and sincere faith. <sup>6</sup> But some teachers have missed this whole point. They have turned away from these things and spend their time arguing and talking foolishness. <sup>7</sup> They want to be known as teachers of the law, but they don't know what they are talking about, even though they seem so confident."

- There's a huge difference between life change and information exchange! Never short of life-change should be the goal of each study.

### James 1:23-25

<sup>23</sup> "Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror <sup>24</sup> and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. <sup>25</sup> But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does."

- When we teach we must get people to look closely at the word, remember what it says, and obey it.

- We must not train people to be hearer AND doers - not just hearers. Otherwise we leave people *informed* but not *transformed*.

*“Never before in the history of the United States has the gospel of Jesus Christ made such inroads while at the same time making so little difference in how people actually live.” - George Gallop*

- People must be taught to hear AND obey - their lives must be changed!

## **2. Life change requires communication.**

### **Romans 10:14**

<sup>14</sup> “How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?”

- Preaching and communicating are not always synonymous.
- Communication occurs when explanation is combined with application.

## **3. Communication requires skill.**

### **Ecclesiastes 10:10**

<sup>10</sup> “If the ax is dull and its edge unsharpened, more strength is needed but skill will bring success.”

### **Ecclesiastes 12:10-11**

<sup>10</sup> The Teacher searched to find just the right words, and what he wrote was upright and true. <sup>11</sup> The words of the wise are like goads, their collected sayings like firmly embedded nails—given by one Shepherd.

## **Five Steps toward Becoming a Skillful Communicator:**

### **1. Be a student of communications and great communicators.**

#### **1 Corinthians 11:1**

<sup>1</sup> “Imitate me, then, just as I imitate Christ.”

#### **Philippians 4:9 (NCV)**

<sup>9</sup> “Do what you learned and received from me, what I told you, and what you saw me do. And the God who gives peace will be with you.”

### **2. Study the text/truth you wish to communicate (observation & interpretation).**

#### **2 Timothy 2:15 (LB)**

<sup>15</sup> “Work hard so God can say to you, 'Well done.' Be a good workman, one who does not need to be ashamed when God examines your work. Know what his Word says and means.”

### **3. Identify the "timeless truths" of your text (clarification).**

- Ask: What is the primary point of the passage?
- And: What response should the reader have?

### **4. Think of your audience (adaptation).**

#### **Galatians 2:6**

“On the contrary, they saw that I had been entrusted with the task of preaching the gospel to the Gentiles, just as Peter had been to the Jews.”

#### **John 6:12 (NCV)**

“I have many more things to say to you, but they are too much for you now.”

**Ask:** What do I know about this person?

- Generally
- Specifically

## **5. Apply the truth to their situation (personalization).**

- Jesus did this as did his followers.

[Mark 4:33-34 \(CEV\)](#)

<sup>33</sup> Jesus used many other stories when he spoke to the people, and he taught them as much as they could understand. <sup>34</sup> He did not tell them anything without using stories. But when he was alone with his disciples, he explained everything to them.

