Bible Study Helps That Cost No Money
2 Tim. 2:15 (KJV).

Introduction:
A. We need to understand the meaning of Bible study.
   1. More than just reading Bible — give diligent thought to it.
   2. More than just attending classes — study the material.
   3. More than just listening sermons — follow up with study.
B. We need to understand the need for Bible study (cf. Hos. 4:6).
C. We are often suggest Bible study helps for people.
   1. Some cost money: Reference Bible, Dictionary, Concordance, Commentary, etc.
   2. In this lesson we suggest some that will not cost a red cent.

Discussion:
I. An Honest and Good Heart.
   A. Like the good soil (Lk 8:15).
   B. Like Cornelius (Acts 10:33).
II. A Desire to Do God’s Will.
   A. Jesus tied knowledge to a willingness to do God’s will (John 7:17).
   B. We learn by doing (John 8:31, 32; Heb. 5:12-14).
III. Regular Study Habits.
   A. Both Testaments urge regular study (Psa. 1:2; Acts 17:11).
   B. What if we approached other fields of study they way we do Bible study?
      1. Just attend class and/or opened the book once in a while.
      2. Just open at random without plan or purpose.
IV. A Spirit of Investigation.
   A. The Bereaians listened and investigated (Acts 17:11) — did not already know it all (cf. John 9:34)
   B. The Thessalonians were not to despise prophesying, but investigate (1 Thess. 5:20-22).
   C. Prejudice thrives on mentally lazy religionists.
      1. Lazy man says, “I do (or do not) agree” without investigation.
      2. One thing to call it “truth” or “error” — another to know why! (Cf. Tit. 1:9).
      3. Congregations need to encourage open investigation without strife or bitterness.
         a. Would purify the church.
         b. Would keep members from accepting or rejecting on the surface.
V. A Desire to Rightly Divide the Word (text)
   A. Literally to cut it straight — handle aright (ASV).
   B. It means more than just dividing the Old from New Testaments.
      1. Involves using common sense rules for study — like any other literature.
      2. Involves careful and correct interpretation and application of Bible text.

Conclusion:
A. Want to the Bible better? Apply these helps.
B. Want to obey the Bible? Begin by obeying the first principles.