

No. 10 **Keep Sowing to the Spirit (Symposium)** —Develop Good Study Habits (Local elder)

Note to speaker:

This is the first talk of a three-part symposium. Emphasize that it takes real effort to develop good study habits. This talk includes interviews

SOW WITH A VIEW TO THE HOLY SPIRIT (2 min.)

What does it mean to ‘sow with a view to the spirit’? [**Read Galatians 6:8**]

It means to live in a way that allows holy spirit to operate freely in our lives, helping us to manifest its fruitage (Ga 5:22, 23)

This symposium will explore three ways that we can sow to the spirit: (1) Developing good study habits, (2) using Bible principles to guide our lives, and (3) giving priority to the ministry by not letting our hands rest

In each part, look for the good results we can expect to see if we sow with a view to the spirit

HOW TO DEVELOP GOOD STUDY HABITS (9 min.)

Study involves effort [**Read Proverbs 2:3-5**] (*be 27 ¶3*)

Our effort is motivated by our love for our heavenly Father and our desire to draw closer to him (Jas 4:8; *w07 1/1 6 ¶1*)

Work hard to maintain a routine of daily Bible reading and meditation

If you are struggling to find the time, remember that even a brief period of study and meditation each day will draw you closer to Jehovah

Applying the suggestions in our publications can make Bible reading more enjoyable and beneficial [Share the suggestions in *The Watchtower*, public edition, No. 1 2017, pages 4-6]

Make it a practice to study “even the deep things of God” (1Co 2:10; *w07 11/1 27-28 ¶2-4*)

Strive to understand the underlying reasons for our beliefs and God’s requirements

Prayer is essential—we can come to know God’s wisdom only with the help of holy spirit

Deep study can help us to comprehend “the breadth and length and height and depth” of the truth (Eph 3:18)

Consider the context and the circumstances in which a portion of the Bible was written

Contemplate the relationship between one Bible teaching and another

Imitate Mary’s example (*ia 150-151 ¶15-16; 158 ¶17*)

She thought deeply about God’s Word; her speech showed the depth of her faith (Lu 1:46-55; 2:51)

TEACH YOUR CHILDREN HOW TO STUDY (4 min.)

Help your children to develop good study habits (*w10 7/15 27-28*)

Some essentials of study include learning how to read well and how to concentrate, compare, and review

Adjust your approach to match the age and attention span of your children

Use family worship, text discussions, and other occasions to introduce study skills to your children

Helping your children cultivate a love for study can result in their becoming spiritually-minded and building a good relationship with Jehovah (Pr 22:6)

INTERVIEWS (4 min.)

[Interview one or two family heads, including a single parent if possible, who have regular, meaningful Family Worship sessions. Ask such questions as: How do you keep family worship regular? How do you make sure that family worship is practical, interesting, and beneficial? What do you consider with your family?]

REAP THE REWARDS OF DEVELOPING GOOD STUDY HABITS (1 min.)

If we develop good study habits, Jehovah will give us wisdom that we can use to praise him forever

Now Brother _____ will speak on the theme “Keep Sowing to the Spirit—Use Bible Principles to Guide Your Life”

(Speaker does not need to read or comment on every cited text)