

# QTC555. How to make the Bible your 'hobby' - Part 1. 23 January 2025

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How to make the Bible your 'hobby' - Part 1 | Malcolm Cox | Quiet Time Coaching Episode 555

## Introduction

How would you feel about making the Bible your 'hobby'? In this new series, I want to explore how our attitude towards the Bible makes all the difference.

By the way, today's episode was inspired by John Miles' video, which can be viewed at [https://youtu.be/Jcll0RcUXo0?si=\\_d5QhLwOqk2k9cwG](https://youtu.be/Jcll0RcUXo0?si=_d5QhLwOqk2k9cwG).

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## 1. Task or treat?

How do you view the Bible? And especially Bible reading and Bible study? Is it a task, or a treat? Indulging in a hobby is a treat.

We work for money to pay the bills, and if we're lucky, we enjoy it. But very few of us can make our hobby our job. Indeed, it is often warned against since the hobby loses its magic. That's a challenge for people like me who teach and preach the Bible 'professionally'.

However, most of us are not in a situation. What difference would it make to view your Bible study as a treat?

Psalm 119.16

“I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.”

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## 2. Rejoice in the riches

Hobbies lose their attraction when they become routine. People who enjoy fly fishing find that every session is different. The weather, the river, and the fish are all unpredictable. I take great pleasure in playing the piano as a hobby. One of my favourite pieces is the Prelude in C major by J. S. Bach. Each time I play it, the notes are the same, and the piano is the same.

However, no two performances are identical. My fingers don't always behave themselves, and my playing is dictated by how I feel. If I have an audience like my granddaughter Talaya, that changes everything!

One of the delights of scripture is that it contains inexhaustible resources. There is always more to learn. Read the book of Philippians five years ago and read it again today, and you will see new things because you are a different person.

The Bible is more than just a book—it's a collection of stories, poetry, history, wisdom, and prophecy. Studying it is like embarking on an adventure, uncovering new insights and truths every time we read.

When we rejoice in the riches of Scripture, we might well exclaim like the apostle Paul:

Romans 11.33

“O the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!”

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## Question

What do you think of the idea of making Bible study your hobby? What would it take for you to see it as a treat more than a task?

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## Suggestions

Take some time to think about the hobbies you enjoy. What is it about them that attracts you to them? Can you see any relevance for your own Bible study?

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## Conclusion

Next week, I will offer some further inspiration to help you make the Bible your hobby.

Your brother, Malcolm

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Please add your comments on this week's topic. We learn best when we learn in community.

Do you have a question about teaching the Bible? Is it theological, technical, or practical? Please send me your questions or suggestions. Here's the email: [malcolm@malcolmcox.org](mailto:malcolm@malcolmcox.org).

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