

QTC558. How to make the Bible your 'hobby' - Part 4. 13 February 2025

How to make the Bible your 'hobby'. Part 4 - Connect to your interests | Malcolm Cox | Quiet Time Coaching Episode 558

Introduction

In this series, we are exploring how approaching our Bible study as a hobby can make all the difference. Today we're going to find inspiration from our own hobbies.

1. Write Down Your Hobbies

What hobbies do you have? What relevance does this have? Bear with me, and I will explain. You see, you have interests different from other people in your congregation. Because of that you will read the Bible uniquely. It's important that you allow your personality and your personal interests and experiences to influence you so that a more multifaceted interpretation of the Bible can develop in the congregation.

What hobbies do you enjoy? Is it sports, cooking, reading, travelling, creative arts? Write them down. Now let me give you three examples of how engaging with your personal Bible study through a hobby might be helpful.

2. Storytelling

Do you love storytelling? Then why not dive into biblical narratives like David, Ruth, or the Gospels? Map out the storytelling arc. What is the author telling you about how the characters interact with each other and God? How does the shape of the narrative influence what you consider to be important?

3. History

Do you enjoy history? Why not take a special interest in the archaeology or historical context behind the Bible? Get yourself a good [Bible dictionary](#) and reference it as you study the Scriptures. Subscribe to magazines like [Biblical Archaeology Review](#), or visit the [British Museum](#) (or browse their website for biblical references). How does the context or the archaeology help to illuminate the point of whatever section of Scripture you are exploring?

4. Puzzles

Do you like puzzles? If so, you will find it fascinating to delve into prophecy and its fulfilment or cross-references across the Bible. Get yourself a book on the fulfilment of prophecy, or more specifically on the books of Daniel and Revelation, and delight in investigating and solving the puzzles contained therein.

Question

Do you struggle with allowing your hobbies to shape the way you study your Bible? If so, where does that resistance come from?

Suggestions

Try this approach with one of your hobbies. As an example, I'm a musician and I love examining passages in the Bible that talk about music such as Colossians 3.16. Let me know how you get on.

Conclusion

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

Your brother, Malcolm

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.

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By the way, this series was inspired by John Miles' video, which can be viewed at https://youtu.be/Jcll0RcUXo0?si=_d5QhLwOqk2k9cwG.
