

ARE WE TOO COMFORTABLE IN OUR IGNORANCE?

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“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” ~ Romans 12:2

“Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.” ~ John 17:17.

*“The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul
The testimony of the Lord is rue, making wise the simple;*

*The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;
The commandment of the Lord is sure, enlightening the eyes;*

*The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever;
The judgments of the Lord are true an righteous altogether.*

*More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold;
Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.*

Moreover by them Your servant is warned, And in keeping them there is great reward.”

~ Psalm 19:7-11

Answer the following questions honestly;
be sure to avoid excessive self-criticism & self-congratulation:

Key:

- 1 = Never true/ evident
- 2 = seldom true/evident
- 3 = occasionally true/evident
- 4 = usually true/evident
- 5 = consistently true/evident

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|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Are you content or satisfied with how much Scripture you know? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Do you think you are ignorant when comes to Scripture? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Are you able to explain <i>what</i> you believe? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Are you able to explain <i>why</i> you believe what you believe? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Have you ever fully read the doctrinal statement of <i>your</i> local church? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Do you <i>understand</i> the doctrinal statement of your local church? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Do you ever try to cover up your ignorance of God’s Word when challenged? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Are you able to discern the difference between true and false teaching? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Are your theological convictions well established? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Are you easily swayed when challenged theologically? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. Do you think carefully and deeply about what you believe? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. Are you able to do discern and consistently do the will of God? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13. Do you long to know Jesus Christ? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14. Are you able to <i>accurately</i> substantiate what you believe? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15. Do you easily get discouraged when biblically/theologically challenged? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16. Do you know who the key figures are in church history? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17. Can you outline the history or heritage of your denomination? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18. Do you care to know the great historic creeds of the Christian church? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19. Can you succinctly state the fundamental beliefs of your faith? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20. If a mother or father, do you teach your children the Bible? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |

21. Do you have a plan to teach your children the Bible at home?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
22. Are your teenagers able to communicate <i>what</i> they believe and <i>why</i> ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
23. Do set aside time each day to study (not merely read) the Scriptures?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
24. Do you use any reference tools to assist you in the daily study of Scripture?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
25. Do you long, crave, and yearn to know the God of the Bible?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
26. Do you find joy in the personal discovery of studying the Scripture?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
27. Have you set aside a certain time to study the Scripture each & every day?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
28. Can you give arguments that support the fact that God exists?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
29. Can you defend the reliability of Scripture?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
30. Can you defend the factual historicity of Jesus Christ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
31. Can you outline the end-time events that are yet to come?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
32. Do you even know <i>how</i> to methodically, inductively study the Scripture?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
33. Have you ever asked your pastor what books, authors, or figures in biblical and theological studies that have most impacted his life?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
34. When you read the Scriptures, do you read to read or <i>read to understand</i> ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
35. Do you earnestly pray to God that you may intimately know Him?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
36. Do you most often study the Scriptures when you are sleepy or tired?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
37. Do you seek to use all the spiritual resources God has given you in the Bible?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
38. Do you apply the Scriptures meaningfully to your daily life?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
39. Have you created a personal plan/goals to better know God's Word?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
40. Do you find yourself ever embarrassed or ashamed because you don't know the Scriptures when asked a biblical or theological question?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
Total:	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO DIFFERENTLY IN VIEW OF THIS ASSESSMENT?

Here are some potential suggestions:

1. Go to my pastor and ask him to create a personal plan of study.
2. Find a local chapter of *Bible Study Fellowship* if my church is unwilling to teach me how to methodically, carefully, and deeply study the Scripture.
3. Ask a godly and learned person in my local church of the same gender to disciple me.
4. Find out and study the most impacting books in the history of the Christian church.
5. Pray everyday to God that you would have an unquenchable passion to know Him as disclosed in the Scripture.
6. Establish personal goals of study which you will purposefully accomplish for the next twelve months.
7. Create a place to study the Scripture that is aesthetically pleasing.
8. Adjust your schedule whereby you will meditate on God's Word fully awake and physically renewed.
9. Find out what are the best reference tools to assist me in study the Scripture.
10. Find a Bible college, Christian University, seminaries, or lay-institutes which offer Christ-centered, Bible-centered biblical, theological, and apologetic studies to better equip you.

11. Find out how to inductively study the Scripture. Consider purchasing Howard Hendrick's *Living by the Book*.
12. Find a group of Christian believers who will motivate you to know both *what* and *why* you believe what you believe, with a desire to know and maximize your life for His glory.

Additional Observations:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.