

The background of the image shows a church interior. In the foreground, a large, semi-transparent olive-green circle is centered. Inside this circle, the text "5 KEYS" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font. Below it, the text "TO A HEALTHY BIBLE STUDY" is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The background behind the circle shows a church with a large, arched window and a congregation of people with their hands raised in prayer.

5 KEYS

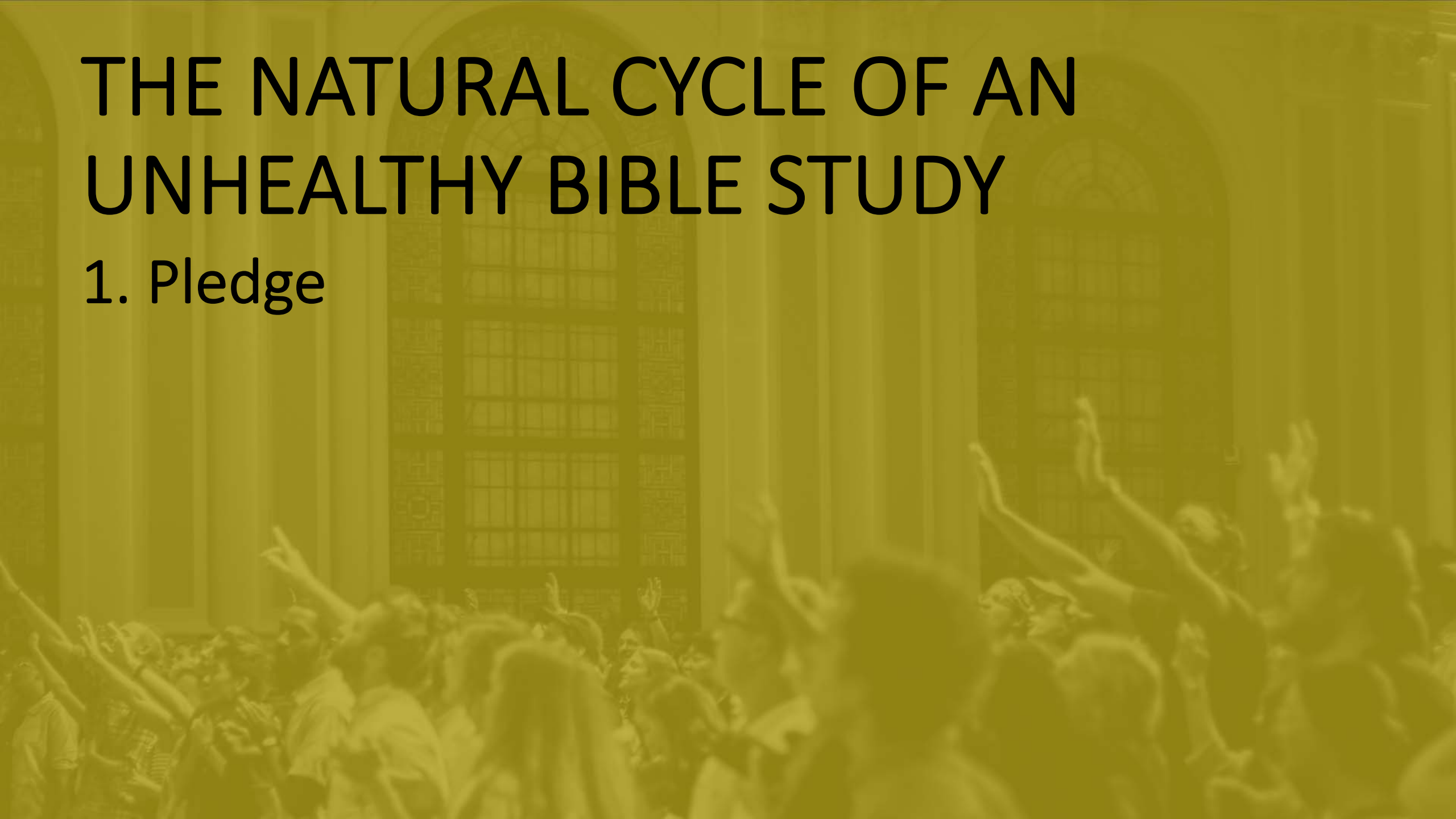
TO A HEALTHY BIBLE STUDY

The background image shows a large group of people, likely at a church service or a public gathering, with many of their arms raised in the air. They are positioned in front of a building that features several large, arched windows with decorative panes. The entire scene is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.

WHAT DO WE WANT FROM
OUR BIBLE STUDIES?

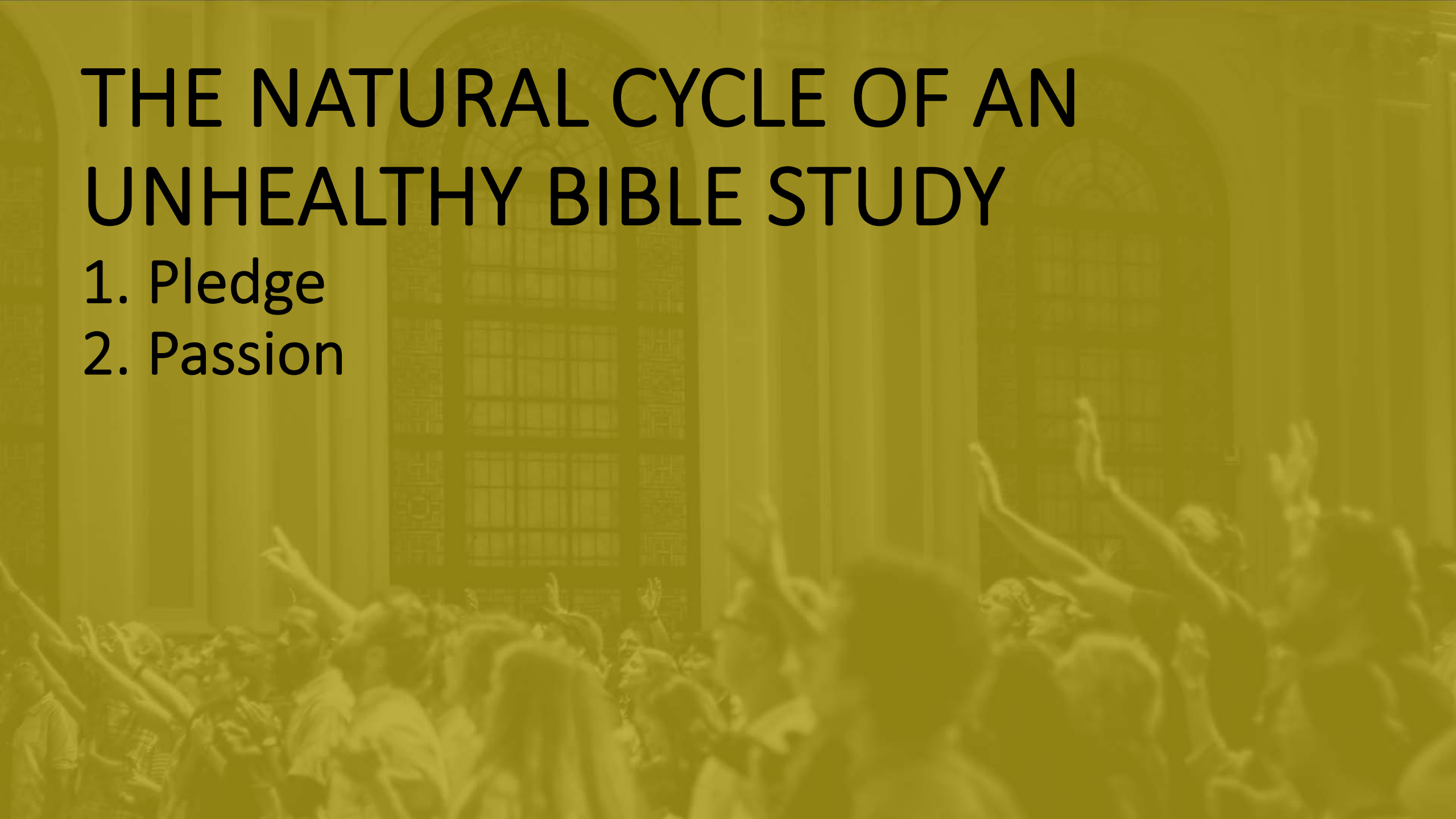
THE NATURAL CYCLE OF AN UNHEALTHY BIBLE STUDY

1. Pledge



THE NATURAL CYCLE OF AN UNHEALTHY BIBLE STUDY

1. Pledge
2. Passion



THE NATURAL CYCLE OF AN UNHEALTHY BIBLE STUDY

1. Pledge
2. Passion
3. Performance

THE NATURAL CYCLE OF AN UNHEALTHY BIBLE STUDY

1. Pledge
2. Passion
3. Performance
4. Passivity

THE NATURAL CYCLE OF AN UNHEALTHY BIBLE STUDY

1. Pledge
2. Passion
3. Performance
4. Passivity
5. Parting

OBEDIENCE

1

Hebrews 11:6

But without faith [it is] impossible to please [him]: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and [that] he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. 7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

8 By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. 9 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as [in] a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: 10 For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker [is] God.

OBEDIENCE

OBEDIENCE MUST BE THE PRIMARY THING.

1

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HOW DO WE CREATE A CULTURE OF BIBLICAL OBEDIENCE?

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2. Bible study leaders should make sure time in God's word takes up the majority of the time together so not to minimize its importance.
3. Bible study leaders should make sure devotional application is a priority in every meeting.

James 1:22-25

But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. 23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: 24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. 25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

TRANSPARENCY

2

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Transparency invites everyone to witness the impact of the Word of God in the lives of others.



James 5:16

Confess [your] faults one to another,
and pray one for another, that ye
may be healed. The effectual fervent
prayer of a righteous man availeth
much.

Act 19:16

And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. 17 And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also dwelling at Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. 18 And many that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds. 19 Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all [men]: and they counted the price of them, and found [it] fifty thousand [pieces] of silver. 20 So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed.

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3. Bible study leaders protect the transparency of members by saving some conversations for private dialog.

HUMILITY

3

EPHESIANS 2:8-9

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

PHILIPPIANS 1:6

Being confident of this very thing,
that he which hath begun a good
work in you will perform it until the
day of Jesus Christ:

GALATIANS 2:20

I am crucified with Christ:
nevertheless I live; yet not I, but
Christ liveth in me: and the life which
I now live in the flesh I live by the
faith of the Son of God, who loved
me, and gave himself for me.



3

HUMILITY

THERE'S NO ROOM FOR BRAGGING IN GOD'S KINGDOM

HEALTHY BIBLE STUDIES CAN'T AFFORD A "SHOW OFF" BEHAVIOR. THIS BREEDS ONE-UPMANSHIP

IT'S NOT ABOUT WHAT I KNOW ABOUT THE BIBLE, BUT THAT I AM KNOWN BY THE GOD OF THE BIBLE



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HEALTHY BIBLE STUDIES BEGINS TO BREED THANKFULNESS RATHER THAN CONCEITEDNESS



KNOWING A BUNCH OF STUFF
(IN FRONT OF AN ALL-KNOWING GOD)
ISN'T THAT IMPRESSIVE.

BUT HUMBLING MYSELF WITH
WHAT I DO KNOW IS OF GREAT VALUE.



3

HUMILITY

IT'S EASY TO TELL OTHERS WHAT'S WRONG

IT'S ANOTHER THING TO HUMBLY WALK WITH THEM
SHOWING HOW THEY MAY RECOVER THEMSELVES OUT
OF THE SNARE OF THE DEVIL

BEING A CRITIC IS EASY -
POINTING OUT PROBLEMS IS NOT HARD

DEUTERONOMY 30:14

But the word is very nigh unto thee,
in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that
thou mayest do it.

1 CHRONICLES 28:20

And David said to Solomon his son, Be strong and of good courage, and do it: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the LORD God, even my God, will be with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD.



1 SAMUEL 3:19

...let none of his (God's) words fall to
the ground...

A READINESS OF MIND

4

ACTS 17:11

These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

4

A READINESS OF MIND

A HEALTHY BIBLE STUDY IS ONE THAT IS COMPRISED OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE WILLING MINDS

THEY ARE:

- WILLING TO PARTICIPATE
- WILLING TO EMBRACE THE SCRIPTURES
- WILLING TO BE CHALLENGED AND CHALLENGE THEIR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST
- WILLING TO FIGHT FOR WHAT THEY BELIEVE IN AND WILLING TO WARN OTHERS



4

A READINESS OF MIND

IT IS A MIND OF PREPARATION AND EXECUTION
NOT A PLACE OF PASSIVITY OR OF MERE ATTENDANCE

A HEALTHY BIBLE STUDY IS NOT A SPECTATOR SPORT

ECCLESIASTES 10:1

Dead flies cause the ointment of the apothecary to send forth a stinking savour.

EDIFICATION

THE WORD EDIFY MEANS TO “BUILD UP”

5

ACTS 9:31

Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.



5

EDIFICATION

A HEALTHY BIBLE STUDY SHOULD PRODUCE A SPACE AND TIME OF REPRIEVE FOR INDIVIDUALS TO BE BUILT UP

DOES YOUR BIBLE STUDY PROVIDE REST FOR THOSE WHO ARE WEARY?

ROMANS 14:19

Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.

EDIFICATION

I CAN ONLY BE A PERSON OF EDIFICATION
WHEN I STOP FOCUSING ON MYSELF AND
BEGIN TO SEEK THE WELFARE OF OTHERS

5

ROMANS 14:20-21

For meat destroy not the work of God. All things indeed are pure; but it is evil for that man who eateth with offence. 21 It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak.

ROMANS 14:22-23

Hast thou faith? have it to thyself before God. Happy is he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth. 23 And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.

5

EDIFICATION

IT IS STRONGLY TIED TO FAITH

IN 1 CORINTHIANS 10:23 PAUL TELLS THE CHURCH THAT TRUE EDIFICATION OCCURS WHEN WE SEEK TO BUILD UP OTHERS AND NOT OURSELVES

- THUS, CHOOSING NOT TO OFFEND OTHERS
- SO THAT THEIR FOUNDATION WOULD NOT BE SHAKEN

EDIFICATION IS NOT THE BUILDING UP OF MYSELF
IT IS THE BUILDING UP OF MY FAITH



5

EDIFICATION

IT IS DIFFERENT THAN ENCOURAGEMENT OR COMFORT

EDIFICATION IS HAVING OUR FAITH BUILT UP IN
WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE

1 THESSALONIANS 5:11

Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

2 CORINTHIANS 10:4-5

(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) 5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;



5

EDIFICATION

THE STRONGHOLDS NEED TO COME DOWN –
HEALTHY BIBLE STUDIES RECOGNIZE THIS

A BUILDING UP OF FAITH FIRST REQUIRES A
REMOVAL OF PAST ALIANCES AND IDOLS

CLOSING QUESTION #1:

Will you obey and encourage others to obey the specific instruction of God's Word today?

CLOSING QUESTION #2:

Will you be open and transparent with God and others so the Word of God can be directly and specifically applied to your life and circumstances?

CLOSING QUESTION #3:

Will you humbly approach God's Word (not as a critic, but in submission) and esteem others as better than yourself?

CLOSING QUESTION #4:

Will you have a willing mind to be a participant in your Bible study? Not coming to the Word of God or your study in a begrudging manner, but with hope and optimism regarding the promises and people of God.

CLOSING QUESTION #5:

Will you choose to edify the body of Christ with the Word of God so their faith in God is increased?