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For more information on Bible study materials contact:

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most important appointment. Yet multitudes have nity. To miss an eternity with Christ is to miss life's when He returns. There is no second chance on eterappointment in life is to be ready to meet Christ getting from earth to heaven. The most important century. The most important directions in life involve IT IS WRITTEN TELEVISION PRESENTS:

ARCH FOR Certainty

How to Understand the Bible Directions for the 21st Century

ment. It's urgent! ing to a very important appointlet's suppose that you are driv-

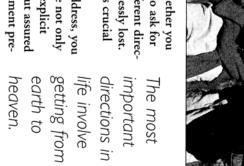
one of America's leading corporathat is totally new. The president of is at 2:00 p.m. at a business address miles from your home. It is an tions has offered you a valuable unfamiliar city. Your appointment The appointment is a thousand

tion you doubt whether you will Sixty miles from your destina-

appointment. help. Each of the people you ask gives different direcare going in the right direction. You stop to ask for make it on time. You are not even sure whether you You are now certain that you will miss this crucial tions. Totally confused, you become hopelessly lost.

of your destination. You make the appointment predirections. With new confidence you set out assured ask a gas station attendant. Fortunately, he not only cisely on time. knows the way but gives you a map with explicit In your desperate search to find the address, you

God has given us directions for the twenty-first





taken wrong "religious directions." They are helplessly lost on the road of life. With no "religious" map to guide them, they are confused. They have searched for truth on their own but have come up empty. They have listened to misguided voices, and their desperate search has led nowhere. They are on the wrong road, and they know it.

Where can we find a reliable map? Are there directions to guide us confidently through the twenty-first century? There are. The Bible provides clear information. It presents understandable answers to the deepest questions of the human heart. Questions such as:

- How can I be certain of eternal life?
- If God is so good, why is the world in such a mess?
- How can I have peace of mind?
- How can I become the person I really want to be?
- What happens five minutes after death?
- What is the ultimate solution to stress?
- Are we living at the end of human history?
- How will the world end?

These lessons are especially designed to answer your questions directly from the Bible. You can place your confidence in God's Word. If you have never studied the Bible before, you are in for a rich reward. God's Word will give you encouragement and hope as you seek for life's deepest meaning. If you are an experienced Bible student, these lessons will lead you deeper into the truths of God's Word.

The first lesson, entitled "How to Understand the Bible," unlocks the hidden secrets of understanding the Bible for yourself. The Bible was written over a 1,500-year period. It contains 66 books, written by about 40 different authors. The Bible's authors deal with the most difficult and controversial topics imaginable, yet they agree. They do not contradict one another. These writings give evidence of divine inspiration.

There is one central message throughout the Bible, Christ the Saviour of humankind. The Bible story begins in Eden, God's perfect world, and ends in Eden, God's perfect world restored.

Before sin entered the world, God communicated directly with Adam and Eve. Sin separated our first parents from God. Today face-to-face fellowship with God is no longer possible. Still the heart of a loving God longs to communicate with a planet in rebellion. Let's discuss how.

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14. What will happen in our lives as we study the precious promises of God's Word?
2 Peter 1:3, 4

The Bible answer:

The Scriptures testify or bear witness of Jesus. As we study the Bible, the power of the living Christ will transform us.

MY DECISION:

It is my determined purpose to allow the Holy Spirit to shape my life as I open my heart to discover Jesus' love and truth in His Word.



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II. If God is guiding us into truth when we study the Scriptures, what method of Bible study will be especially helpful in discovering God's truth? Isaiah 28:9, 10; I Corinthians 2:13

The Bible answer:

a particular topic. without looking at the original picture? Certainly not! It's the same with God's Word. God invites us to study all the texts on a given subcome to a conclusion regarding what the finished picture will look like ject before coming to a conclusion regarding what the Bible teaches on Let's suppose you are putting together a jigsaw puzzle. Do you

٣ 12. What guarantee has Jesus given to ensure that as we study the Bible with a sincere heart we will be led into His truth? John 16:13

The Bible answer:

guidance. left us alone in our pursuit of truth. He has promised the Holy Spirit's line and text after text we will know the truth of God. God has not As the Holy Spirit leads us in our Bible study interpreting line upon

13. Who is the central theme of the Bible? John 5:39

The Bible answer:

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I. How does God communicate with a fallen race? 2 Peter 1:21

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their own words, the message of the Bible comes directly from God. write down His messages. Although they recorded these messages in The Bible is God's Word God spoke through His Holy Spirit and inspired the prophets to

2. Since the Bible was written by human beings, how much of it is actually inspired by God? 2 Timothy 3:16

The Bible answer:

especially describes God's instructions to His church today. Revelation), reveals the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. It New Testament, the last 27 books of the Bible (from Matthew to Malachi. It reveals God's plan for His people before Jesus' birth. The Testament consists of the first 39 books of the Bible from Genesis to Both the Old and New Testaments are inspired by God. The Old

3. Since scribes copied the Bible repeatedly throughout the centuries, is it still reliable today? Can we really trust the Bible? Psalm 12:6, 7

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safe, reliable guide. ies have further confirmed its accuracy and reliability. God's Word is a throughout the centuries. Recent archaeological and historical discover-The same Holy Spirit who inspired the Bible has preserved it



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4. What was God's purpose in giving us the Bible? Psalm | 19:105

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ahead. The Bible enlightens our understanding flashlight's beams penetrate the darkness, providing light on the path God's Word is like a flashlight. When you are in a dark place, the



5. What is the first principle of understanding the Bible correctly? 2 Peter 1:20

The Bible answer:

explain another we discover God's interpretation The Bible is its own interpreter. By allowing one passage of Scripture to We avoid "private" interpretation by letting the Bible explain itself.



What is the source of God's truth? John 17:17

The Bible answer:



7. With so many people interpreting the Bible differently, is it possible to know truth? John 8:32

The Bible answer:

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ruth? John 7:17 What attitude is essential in understanding Bible

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in His Word, He will guide you into all truth It is a heart experience. If you are willing to do whatever God asks you do whatever God requires. Bible study is not simply a mental exercise. An understanding of the Bible largely depends on a willingness to



9. Why do some people have difficulty understanding Bible truth? Isaiah 53:6; Proverbs 16:25

The Bible answer:

understanding to humble acceptance of His revealed will in His Word His way, not our own. He invites us to turn from the pride of our own their unwillingness to give up their own ideas. God invites us to seek Understanding the Bible is difficult for some people because of



The Bible answer:

of truth from His Word on what others tell us. God invites you to go on a personal discovery It is very important to study the Bible for yourself. We can't rely