


Training Course, we found ourselves putting into practice the theories we had been taught in previous weeks.

Words cannot describe the scene. Anger and resentment began to give way as the Holy Spirit began to break through to these boys. We continued to talk and pray with them for two hours. Finally they dropped to their knees around the campfire. After several minutes of earnest prayer, three boys lifted their hands toward heaven. With tears trickling down their cheeks they began to thank God for saving their souls.

Then we sat around the fire and listened to their testimonies. They expressed joy and happiness and the belief that they had been brought to this place in the providence of God—that God had planned it all so they could find Jesus Christ as their Saviour.

After a very short night of rest the happy boys drove out of the campsite. We had meanwhile learned they came from very prominent families in the city.

To our utter surprise in the afternoon we saw a familiar car coming into camp again. It was the three boys who had found Christ as personal Saviour. They were returning with Cokes to replace the ones they had stolen from our supply. Once again they apologized and then expressed their joy and thanks that we had helped them find Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.

As a pastor I can truly say that Royal Rangers does not cost, it pays. I am thoroughly convinced that the Royal Rangers program has been instituted by God to reach, teach, and keep boys for Christ. 

A word from the general superintendent

The blessing of Bible study

By THOS. F. ZIMMERMAN



SAMUEL CHADWICK once wrote: "I have guided my life by the Bible for more than 60 years, and I tell you there is no book like it. It is a miracle of literature, a perennial spring of wisdom, a wonder of surprises, a revelation of mystery, an infallible guide of conduct, and an unspeakable source of comfort. Pay no attention to people who discredit it, for I tell you that they speak without knowledge. It is the Word of God itself. Study it according to its own direction. Live by its principles, believe its message, and follow its precepts. No man is uneducated who knows the Bible, and no one is wise who is ignorant of its teachings!"

People who appreciate the Word of God as Samuel Chadwick did soon find that one great blessing of Bible study is faith. Paul wrote, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17). For those who want a great measure of faith, Bible study is the answer.

Daniel was a great student of the Word. The result was that in the life-and-death situations he had faith equal to the occasion (Daniel 6:10). That faith resulted in his being willing to be thrown into the lions' den. But it also resulted in his deliverance (Daniel 6:23).

Sanctification is another wonderful result of studying the Scriptures. In His high priestly prayer Jesus said: "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" (John 17:17). Paul emphasized this when he wrote concerning the Church: "That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word" (Ephesians 5:26).

Every generation has had those who wanted to know how they could live more acceptably before the Lord. But there have also been those who seemed more

concerned with how little of the world they would have to give up. It is interesting to notice that people who delight themselves in the Word of God are usually in the first group. Scripture has a sanctifying influence which makes complete commitment to Christ a joy.

Throughout the years an understanding of Scripture has also helped in understanding God's prophetic program. Prophetic insight has always been important. Never has it been needed more than today.

By reading the prophecy of Jeremiah, Daniel learned the significance of the day in which he lived (Daniel 9:2). For many of his contemporaries it was business as usual, but not for Daniel. He was aware that prophecy was being fulfilled.

As God's people faithfully study the Bible today, they will gain an insight into the significance of world events. This is why when many are overcome with fear and frustration, God's people can look up and lift up their heads. They know their redemption is drawing near (Luke 21:28). What a difference it makes in a believer's life when he knows the meaning of world events!

The apostle Paul brought the Word of God to many different people during his missionary journeys. Some accepted it. Others rejected it. Today, the Bereans are still remembered in a special way because they studied the Scriptures. They were described as being more noble (Acts 17:11). Like other people they had their share of preconceived ideas and traditions, but they were so noble in their attitude toward Scripture that every opinion bowed before the truth of God's Word. There were Bereans who studied the Scripture in Paul's day. God grant that there shall be many more today! 