2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV)

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

I don't know if you ever heard this, but there are three ways to approach the word of God, which are to "**Read"**, to "**Study"** and to "**Live"** the Word of God.

So what do these three ways mean anyway?
Let's say that you are in your car driving to the park. As you are driving, there in an intersection is a STOP sign. So to read it would mean, you "**read"** the word "STOP" yet kept on driving, because you either didn't know what the word, STOP means, or you choose not to do what it says.

The "**study"** of it would be that you have read that word (STOP) before, but you looked deeper into what that word means. So you look at dictionaries which says:

> *verb (used without object),* **stopped** or (*Archaic*) **stopt; stop·ping.**
> to come to a stand, as in a course or journey; halt.
> to cease moving, proceeding, speaking, acting, operating, etc.; to pause; desist.

and driving manuals, as well as people talk to others about this word "STOP" and you find out that it means to no longer move, or no longer do what you were doing. So you come to the stop sign, and you know what the word "STOP" means, yet you drive through without stopping. So you have read the word and studied the word, yet you are not putting it into practice.

Finally to "**live"** the word, would be that you have read it, and you have studied it so you know what it means, but you have also decided that you will do what the sign says, which would be to stop at the intersection. And since you studied it, you know that you must stop, but also that you can continue to move again, after you follow what the law says about coming to a stop at an intersection with a stop sign.

Yet the same practice is true for the word of God. You can **"read"** it all you want, which is great, but simply reading the bible will not change your life. Therefore, you must **"study"** the word of God as well. But just as we saw with our stop sign example, you can read it and study it, but if you don't put it into action **"Live"**, it means nothing either.

In our example of a stop sign, if you don't apply it, you can hurt yourself, as well as others by not doing what it says. And if you don't hurt yourself or someone else, you can still get a ticket. And telling the officer that pulled you over for running the stop sign, that you studied stop signs, and you are a stop sign expert does not change the fact that you did not do what it said to do. But

if you don't do what it says, studying it will not stop you from getting a ticket, no matter how much you know what Stop signs are and what they mean.

It's the same with the Word of God, you can read it and study it, but if you don't apply it, you wont get to heaven, and your excuse of, *"Hey God, I studied Your word and know it inside and out"* will not get you into heaven, because there are specific instructions on how to get to heaven that everyone must follow. Just like everyone has to follow the law behind driving and stopping at stop signs, so we must all follow what God's word says.

So, you have read and studied the bible, and you find that no one can keep the Law, therefore, in order to get to heaven, the only to way heaven is through Jesus Christ and following Him alone.

- ✞ **Galatians 3:11-12 (NLT2)** ***So it is clear that no one can be made right with God by trying to keep the law. For the Scriptures say, "It is through faith that a righteous person has life." This way of faith is very different from the way of law, which says, "It is through obeying the law that a person has life."***

- ✞ **John 14:6** ***Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."***

So yes, do all three, "**Read"** your bible everyday, "**Study"** your bible everyday, and also "**Live"** your bible everyday. I have read the acronym for the word Bible is:

Basic
Instruction
Before
Leaving
Earth

So let's all follow those instructions.

- ✞ **Psalm 119:77 (NLT2)** ***Surround me with your tender mercies so I may live, for your instructions are my delight.***

- ✞ **Nehemiah 9:13 (MSG)** ***You came down onto Mount Sinai, you spoke to them out of heaven; You gave them instructions on how to live well, true teaching, sound rules and commands.***