



WHAT DID YOU LEARN IN CHURCH TODAY? #2

J.J. Turner, Ph.D. ©

In the previous lesson we closed with a reminder that learning requires an exposure to subject matter, and the next step is an understanding of what we are being exposed to in the lesson. This is a challenge that relates to several factors:

1. Do we understand the language (words) that the lesson is being presented in? This relates to our personal vocabulary and educational level. For example sometimes theological words like *atonement*, *propitiation*, *kingdom* and *justification* aren't understood. Even *baptism* is misunderstood. We need to take time to learn words.
2. Do we understand how the lesson relates to our personal, everyday life? How does it translate into my lifestyle? This requires thinking in a deliberate mode and reflection.
3. Do we understand the importance of the lesson because it is from God's word? It is not just another piece of sage or good advice; it is God speaking to us in His word. This is why we must "*take heed to what we hear*" (Mark 4:24).
4. Do we understand that God holds us accountable for how we respond to His word? He wants us to love it and be doers of His word (Psalm 119:113; James 1:22-24). This will not happen by chance or accident. It takes planning and effort to apply God's word to our lives.
5. Do we understand that we must actually study God's word if we are to properly understand it? Exposure is not studying. It takes time and effort to dig into the



JEREMIAH INSTITUTE

J. J. TURNER

jeremiahinst@aol.com

www.jeremiahinstitute.com

2

depths of God's eternal truths. This is why we must "*Study to show ourselves approved unto God*" (2 Timothy 2:15, kjv).

We have noted the first two steps in learning God's word: (1) exposure and (2) understanding. The next step is do you **believe** what you have been exposed to and understand?