

“**W**hat can *I* do to get more benefit from our Bible classes?” It is indeed a challenge for any church to provide the broad spectrum of teaching needed by everyone in the congregation.

At Hueytown, our Sunday morning classes are currently devoted to a five-year program of laying a Bible-wide foundation of God’s scheme of redemption. Wednesday evenings are more flexible to explore topics of interest or in-depth study of individual books. Private studies are also available to meet individual needs.

But the secret to taking advantage of these opportunities begins with each person. Truly, you will get out of it what you put into it. So, how can I put more into it?

The answer begins with sleep. No, not *during* class but *before* class. Is Saturday evening in *any* sense a time of preparation for your worship the next day? Or is it merely a free evening lived to the fullest until 2:00 a.m., leaving you to drag into Bible class at the last minute (or later than the last minute) looking like Ned and totally unprepared to think about much less discuss the Scriptures?

Are you so embarrassed at the thought of saying something wrong that you don’t say anything at all in class? Are you so confident of your contribution that you don’t let the teacher get a word in edgewise? Either extreme is detrimental to a class.

Prepare yourself during the week by either studying at a single set time or as the material is divided – into bite-sized daily segments. There is a reasonable amount of material in each segment for a day’s study. If you wait until late Saturday night or early Sunday morning to whip out your lesson, it will likely be too late to adequately deal with the material.

Anticipate from where in the lesson fruitful discussion might grow and think of a comment or illustration that might be worthy of the class’ consideration. Someone once said there is no such thing as a bad question. Hooey. Some questions make it obvious the querist didn’t study. Other questions are miles off the point of the lesson. *Think* about what will truly enhance the study for everyone before you speak.

Somewhere all the begging, cajoling and pleading for members to attend class *regularly*, study their lessons diligently, and grow spiritually must give way to individual desire and discipline. Hueytown has good teachers, good material and good students. Take advantage of the opportunity to learn while you can.