

# WORD OF THE DAY



## WORD OF THE DAY (2 Timothy 2:15)

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

### Approval through Studying



**Life is full of tests.** School tests were common when I was a child. Sometimes these tests were known in advanced, but other times they came as a surprise to me. The results of these tests would allow me to know if my teacher approved of my retention and demonstration of the previous instructions I had received during the semester.

**Study for the test.** It was imperative that I studied for the test that I had in school if I desired a grade of approval. Trying to squeeze everything I was learning throughout the semester into one week was quite challenging; moreover, studying last minute was not the best habit. My preparation for the scheduled and unscheduled tests would therefore consist of regular study. Similar to the test we had in school, in life, we will also encounter various tests, trials, and tribulation. They may present as a test of faith, a temptation to test and expose our heart's desires, or a test of our love and obedience to God.

**Approval through study.** As a student, I believed that my approval came with a passing grade on the test; however, in our verse of the day, we are reminded that the approval really comes before the test. In our verse of the day Paul writes to Timothy and encourages his brother in Christ by saying, *"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."* As we read in our verse of the day, we are reminded that the approval we receive comes from our study, not just from our passing grade. We should remember that it was NOT after Jesus (passed the test) resurrected from the grave and conquered death on the cross, that God declared His approval; instead, it was at the very beginning of Jesus' ministry, at His baptism (after his years and years of studying) that God shared His approval, stating, **"This is my beloved Son in Whom I am well please."** God approved Jesus before the cross, before the temptation by the devil in the wilderness, and even before any miracles were performed; God approved Jesus because Jesus had studied and was prepared. You too beloved can receive God's approval prior to the test by seriously studying God's WORD and being prepared in advanced.

-Your brother in Christ, WNL

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Your spiritual test will not an open-book test, so study now!

### PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear God, thank you for WORD which has all that I need to prepare for the spiritual testing. Help me to study your WORD so that I can know what it says, how to properly interpret it, and relevantly apply this interpretation during the hour of testing so that I will not be ashamed. In Jesus name I pray, Amen.



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