



# S.T.U.D.Y.

NEWSLETTER #1  
(August 2002)

“And be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear” (1 Peter 3:15).

S.T.U.D.Y. / P.O. Box 4129 / Wenatchee, WA 98807-4129

Phone: (888) www.S-T-U-D-Y (888-999-7883)

Website: www.S-T-U-D-Y.org (be sure to use four hyphens between the five letters)

## INTRODUCTORY NEWSLETTER

### A. The **S.T.U.D.Y.** Name, Acronym, and Logo

In 1995, more than seven years ago, I (Timothy D. Simkin) started a ministry named: S.T.U.D.Y. This five-letter name is not based primarily on the single word “study”; instead, the name is based primarily on an acronym from the five words: STUDY To Understand Doctrines Yourself (shown above in the Bible logo).

However, the name is based secondarily on the single word “study”; in fact, “study” is the first of the five words which the acronym comes from, and therefore the first word is the same as the entire acronym—a feature not found in very many acronyms! You can easily see this feature in the Bible logo above; the word “study” shows up twice in bold: once reading from left to right on the top line, and once reading from top to bottom on the left side. This name/acronym should be pronounced: “S”, “T”, “U”, “D”, “Y” (for details, see section E below).

Now take a close look at the Bible logo above. On the top left and right you should see these references: 2 Timothy 2:15; 2 Timothy 3:16; and the actual text of these verses appears in the small print on the right side of the Bible logo. These two verses are referenced and quoted, because they are the Inspiration for the five main words on the left side of the Bible logo. 2 Timothy 2:15 actually begins with the very word “**Study**”, and then continues with the second and last of the five main words: “**to shew thyself** [yourself] approved unto God ...”; the fourth word, “**doctrine[s]**”, is found in 2 Timothy 3:16—and the only other word, “understand”, is a clear principle which runs through both of these verses (also, see “**understand doctrine**” in Isaiah 28:7-13; 29:22-24).

### B. The Calling, Purpose, and Motto of **S.T.U.D.Y.**

Although I was raised in the church, unfortunately while growing up I had little interest in GOD or religion; and when I did grow up, I wasted several years “in the world”. But praise the LORD: in 1990, I decided to give GOD and religion a try. It was not long after, when I was impressed that I had a talent for writing which could be used in the LORD’S work; and as a result, I took a college course on writing. At the time, I had no thought of becoming a speaker; however, over the next few years, the LORD gently pushed me into public speaking. But even now, after several years of speaking, I still believe that writing is my main calling; and I also believe that this calling will be fulfilled through Web publishing, far more than through normal books.

Whether writing or speaking: I believe that my talent and calling is in the area of teaching doctrines; of course there are many other areas in the LORD’S service which are very important, but they are not areas which I have been called to work in. Various gifts of the Spirit are listed in both 1 Corinthians 12, and Ephesians 4; and both of these passages specifically list “teachers”. Different people are given different gifts, and nobody is called to do every type of work; so my calling, once again, is to be a “teacher”.

The evidences which I have received that this is my calling, are far too many to cover in detail here; but I shall give an overview of some significant points. Anyone who knows me very well, will most likely agree that I have been blessed with an exceptional memory—as well as a very logical and analytical mind. And although I’m

not rich in material goods: yet I have been blessed with many tools (such as computers and CD-ROM's with search engine capabilities of the KJV Bible, Strong's Concordance, Old Testament Hebrew, New Testament Greek, etc), which greatly aid in the STUDY process. And in addition to this, before getting married I had the privilege of spending several years with almost no responsibilities; and therefore I was able to spend more than eight hours a day (ten, twelve, and sometimes even fourteen hours in a day), for more than five days a week, doing almost nothing but studying! I do not say these things to brag that I am "better" than anyone else—we are all equal at the foot of the cross; I say these things to give evidence of my calling.

Further evidence of my calling is found in the S.T.U.D.Y. acronym and logo. In 1995, when I was starting this ministry, I needed a ministry name; and I wanted it to be unique, easy to remember, and a catchy acronym that also had a good message in it. Well, the LORD answered this need—and even more dramatically than I had expected! The S.T.U.D.Y. name fulfilled all of these conditions, and more besides!

The Inspiration for the name comes from two Bible verses (2 Timothy 2:15; 3:16), both of which are in a book of the Bible that has the same name as my own birth name: Timothy. I did not set out with the goal of finding a name based upon verses in Timothy; quite the contrary, when I first came up with S.T.U.D.Y., I was amazed to find that it had several significant advantages—including the advantage of being based upon verses from the book of Timothy! Furthermore, only after I started using the name publicly did I realize that the three consonants in the name are the same three letters as the three initials which I have had since birth: T.D.S. And there is a Biblical basis for putting more emphasis on the consonants than on the vowels, because the original Hebrew alphabet consisted only of consonants. What are the odds that these things all happened by coincidence?

Once again, I am not trying to exalt my name or myself; instead, I am trying to give more evidence that GOD has called me into the work of teaching doctrines (STUDY To Understand Doctrines Yourself). The fact is that I have never used a picture of myself on printed materials that I have produced, and I have rarely even used my own personal name on my materials; this is because JESUS and His truth should be the focus, not man.

I have used my own name a few times in this newsletter, because of the nature of the subjects contained in it; but I will not use my name much in future publications, except for signing off at the end of each newsletter. At the same time, however, I am not ashamed of what I publish; therefore, I always use the S.T.U.D.Y. name on my materials, as a point of identification—and I also give at least one point of contact (address, phone, etc).

And speaking of the phone number: (888) www.S-T-U-D-Y (888-999-7883), obtaining this number is yet another evidence of my "calling" (pun intended). Of all the various toll-free numbers out there, none of them are better than this one; some reasons are obvious (it fits the S.T.U.D.Y. name, it advertises the Website, and it is very easy to remember), while other reasons are not so obvious (but too long to explain here). I obtained this number less than a year ago, when almost all of the 888 (and 800) numbers were already taken; but this number had accidentally been left dormant in the Sprint system, and was not easily available—I believe that GOD was reserving it for S.T.U.D.Y. And again: what are the odds that this (and all the other things above) happened by coincidence? But if these things didn't happen by chance, then they are very strong confirmations of my calling.

-----  
The Purpose of **S.T.U.D.Y.**

This subject is closely related to the above subject of my calling (teaching doctrines); however, what I covered above is primarily the evidences that I have been called by GOD for a specific work; but now I will cover some details about what that work includes (and there will be further details in my next newsletter).

Even though speaking is not my primary talent, I am available for speaking appointments upon request. You can ask me to speak on specific subjects; but if nothing specific is requested, I will seek the LORD'S guidance and then choose the subject(s). I have the equipment to do PowerPoint presentations, on a video projector and screen: so everyone can easily read and follow all the quotes and diagrams, etc, as I go through them.

I do not charge a fee for speaking appointments, but I do generally expect the costs for coming to be covered (transportation, food, lodging); in some cases, however, I will even cover some or all of these costs myself. And speaking of speaking appointments: I have been invited to speak at the upcoming WRM meetings on August 23-25, 2002 (in Canby, Oregon); call for details (me at 888-999-7883, or WRM at 352-735-5421).

But even though I have for several years now been studying, writing, and speaking, etc: I believe that my main work is just now getting started; all my previous experience in the S.T.U.D.Y. work has been preparation for my main calling—Web publishing. (At this point, I have not published anything on the Website; but by the time my next newsletter comes out in October, I plan to have at least a home page and maybe more.)

Yet the mere fact of publishing S.T.U.D.Y. material on the Web is not my main calling; it is the type of Web publishing that I am planning to do—which is unique, important, and my main calling. I plan to take Web publishing and doctrinal STUDY to a level never done before, as far as I know (and I am fairly sure that I would know it, if anyone else out there were already doing what I am planning to do). I am not going to “let the cat out of the bag” just yet; but I will give a little detail regarding my plans in this newsletter, and there will be much more detail on this in my next (October) newsletter.

What I have in mind would be very difficult or impossible without the Internet; and although the Internet is used a lot in the promotion of evil, I believe that GOD has provided the Internet as a significant tool—perhaps even the primary tool—in getting the gospel message to every soul on this planet (see Matthew 24:14; Revelation 14:6; etc). Of course this does not mean that every soul will accept the truth, but the truth must be given so clearly that nobody can plead honest ignorance (see Acts 17:30,31; James 4:17; 2 Peter 3:3,5; etc).

“And **Jesus** came and spake unto them, saying ... Go ye therefore, and **teach all nations** ... **Teaching** them to observe **all things** whatsoever I have commanded you ...” (Matthew 28:18-20; see 4:4). “And **Jesus** answered him, saying, **It is written**, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by **every word** of God [doth man live].” (Luke 4:4; see Deuteronomy 8:3). “Then he [Jesus] said unto them, **O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken**” (Luke 24:25). According to these three statements of JESUS, the gospel that needs to go to the whole world is not limited merely to a few specific teachings.

Although not spoken by JESUS CHRIST Himself while here on earth, the following verses present a similar concept—and it is interesting that they are from the passage in Timothy which appears in small print on the right side of the S.T.U.D.Y. logo: “**All scripture** is given by inspiration of God, and **is profitable** for **doctrine**, for reproof, for correction, for **instruction** [teaching] in righteousness: That the man of God may be **perfect**, throughly furnished unto all good works.” (2 Timothy 3:16,17).

But the problem we face today is that there are continually more and more winds of doctrine blowing (see Ephesians 4:11-16), and so many different voices crying out so many different and conflicting messages, etc—that in view of the current condition of things: it seems almost impossible that the whole truth can go to the whole world. Then what hope is there? I firmly believe that there is hope!! And I also believe that the time is not far distant when there will not be any more honest ignorance in the world—praise the LORD!

How, then, can this be accomplished? Of course there will be many tools and many people involved in finishing this work; but I believe that if I am faithful to my calling, what I have planned for the Website will have a major impact on finishing the work of getting the whole truth to the whole world!

---

The **S.T.U.D.Y.** Motto: “Ready Always to Give an Answer”

“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready **always** to **give an answer** to every man that asketh **you** a reason of the hope that is in you **with meekness and fear**” (1 Peter 3:15). This is the S.T.U.D.Y. motto, and it is quoted just below the S.T.U.D.Y. logo (see page 1). I have chosen this text for the motto, because it presents the bottom-line test on whether or not you do indeed: STUDY To Understand Doctrines Yourself.

If you don’t study, you certainly won’t “be ready always to give an answer to every man that” asks you questions about what you believe (“the hope that is in you”). Nevertheless, even if you do study, this does not necessarily mean that you will “be ready always to give an answer”; it is not enough merely to study for yourself, you need to: STUDY To Understand Doctrines Yourself—the word “yourself” modifies the word “understand” as much or more than it modifies the word “study”. And whatever the doctrines are, that you believe: if you do have a correct and clear understanding of them, then you will “be ready always to give an answer”.

Some people are in the left ditch: they don’t bother to study for themselves; instead, they just trust the teachings of the preachers, pastors, and priests. But the Bible has many very solemn warnings against trusting in man, including and especially religious leaders (see Psalm 146:3-6; Isaiah 2:22; 3:12; 9:14-16; 28:7-13; Matthew 15:3,6,9,14; 23:1-39; John 7:14-18,45-48; etc).

Then there are others who are in the right ditch: they do study for themselves, and pat themselves on the back that they don’t trust the religious leaders; however, they have a problem of trusting in self! But when the Bible warns us not to trust in man: that word “man” includes not only religious leaders and other people, it also includes self: “**Trust** in the **LORD** with **all thine heart**; and **lean not** unto thine **own understanding**. In **all thy ways** acknowledge **him**, and **he shall direct** thy paths. Be **not wise** in thine **own eyes** ...” (Proverbs 3:5-7; see 23:4; Jeremiah 9:23,24; 17:5-10; Hosea 13:2; Romans 12:16; etc).

In my next newsletter (October), I will go into more detail regarding this problem of those who trust in self. For now, I will just say that being able to “give an answer” is the solution to both problems—trusting in others, and trusting in self. Generally speaking: the Sadducees were in the left ditch, and the Pharisees were in the right ditch—CHRIST silenced the Sadducees, who did not know the Scriptures (see Matthew 22:23,29,34); but He also silenced the Pharisees, who “trusted in themselves” (Luke 18:9,11; see Matthew 22:41-46; etc).

In the following Scriptures: notice the clear connection between being unable to “give an answer” (silenced) and doctrinal error, guilt, etc. “And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. **And the people answered him not a word.**” (1 Kings 18:21). “Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that **every mouth may be stopped**, and all the world may become **guilty** before God.” (Romans 3:19). “**Holding fast the faithful word** as he hath been taught, that he may be able **by sound doctrine** both to exhort and to **convince the gainsayers**. For there are **many** unruly and **vain talkers** and **deceivers**, specially they of the circumcision: **Whose mouths must be stopped**, who **subvert** whole houses, **teaching things which they ought not**, for filthy lucre’s sake.” (Titus 1:9-11; see Genesis 45:3,4; Psalm 63:11; Matthew 21:23-27; 22:12,13, 23,29,34,46; 27:22-24; Mark 3:2-4; 15:13,14; Luke 13:14-17; 14:1-6; 20:1-8; 23:22,23; John 18:29,30; etc).

The opposite, or the contrast, is the verses about those who can “give an answer”—which of course includes the S.T.U.D.Y. motto verse (1 Peter 3:15). “And when he was **twelve years old** ... the **child** Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem ... [and] they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, **and asking them questions**. And all that heard him were **astonished** at his **understanding** and **answers**.” (see Luke 2:40-47). Here we see that JESUS was able to “give an answer”—even at the young age of twelve; the same was true in His adult life and ministry (see Matthew 15:1-9; Mark 12:13-34; Luke 17:20,21; John 8:3-7; etc). “The heart of the **righteous studieth to answer** ...” (Proverbs 15:28); and right here, in this last verse: we can see the principles of the S.T.U.D.Y. acronym, logo, and motto!

---

### C. The 800 HIS-LOVE Ministry

For several years, I have been working together very closely with The 800 HIS - LOVE Ministry—which is owned and operated by my parents: Gordon and Joan Simkin. Some people who get this S.T.U.D.Y. newsletter have also received their newsletters, while others who get this S.T.U.D.Y. newsletter may have never even heard of The 800 HIS - LOVE Ministry; and if you would like to get their introductory newsletter (as well as regular newsletters), then call them on their toll-free phone number: 800 HIS - LOVE (800-447-5683).

If you are on the mailing list of either of our ministries, you will receive newsletters from both ministries. The exception is for those who receive this S.T.U.D.Y. newsletter by e-mail: so far, The 800 HIS - LOVE Ministry newsletter is not available via e-mail; and you won’t get it by regular USPS mail either, unless you give us (or we already have) your “snail mail” address.

Now that I am going to be doing a S.T.U.D.Y. newsletter every other month, my parents will drop back from a monthly newsletter to every other month; of course both ministries will not put out a newsletter in the same month—instead, the two ministries will alternate doing newsletters from month to month.

Some, who have been well aware of both ministries, may have never understood the distinction between the two different ministries; but until now, understanding the distinction was not very important. However, now that I am married—and especially now that my parents are living in a different location than I am: the distinction between the two ministries needs to be better understood (which is one reason for this newsletter).

S.T.U.D.Y. actually began a couple of years before the beginning of The 800 HIS - LOVE Ministry; and throughout the entire time that the two ministries have existed, they have each had their own distinct: name, logo, purpose, legal ownership, and financial account. Additionally, at this time the two ministries each have their own distinct: mailing address, phone number, and newsletter.

---

### D. Your Support

Everything covered in this section applies to both ministries, unless obviously about only one of them. All of the materials offered are on a donation basis (not for sale), though we usually suggest a minimum donation to help cover our costs of providing the materials. And although we have never been the type to have beg-athons, we have occasionally let the people know our needs (see Exodus 35:4-29). And now that my parents will not be traveling very much: they will not have nearly as much travel expenses, as in previous years when we were on the

road almost full-time; however, they do still have the same basic expenses in other areas: phone bill, copying and sending videos, books, newsletters, etc.

In the past, many donations have come in that did not clearly identify which ministry it was intended to go to—and this no doubt was a result of people not realizing that there were two distinct bank accounts; however, we never got into a disagreement over which ministry should get the donation. From now on, though, you will need to send the donation to the Wenatchee address if it is for S.T.U.D.Y.—or else send it to my parents if it is for their ministry (their current address is still: P.O. Box 3700 / Belleview, FL 34421-3700).

Also, even though we can process checks written to S.T.U.D.Y. or The 800 HIS - LOVE Ministry, it is quicker and easier for us to process checks written to our personal names (Simkin). We have never taken donation money and used it for personal income (except for tithe donations); quite the opposite, every year we have put several thousand dollars of personal money into the ministries! We have also kept very detailed records of all donations and ministry expenses; and although we have never been financially ahead very much, we have always had enough for the task at hand—praise the LORD!

Regarding tithe donations: we do not use them for ministry expenses, so please identify them. My parents have never taken any tithe income for their own use, and I have only received a small income from tithe of about \$700 a month (from now on please send all tithe donations to me, not my parents). Right now my wife is working full-time; but I am praying for tithe support to increase enough that she can go to part-time, and be able to spend time home-schooling our six year old son: Teilen.

For those who believe that tithe donations should only go through “official” channels, I will put a detailed STUDY in regard to this on the Website; but it is too long for here and now. Whether you send tithe or offering: I will not take the time and money to send you a receipt, unless you specifically request one.

-----

#### E. Introductory Information

Some of the information in this section may be a bit tedious; but it is valuable introductory information, which will help you to get the most out of future newsletters and other S.T.U.D.Y. materials—and I won’t need to repeat it in future newsletters, as long as you read it here in the introductory newsletter.

The following procedures apply to all S.T.U.D.Y. materials: to help distinguish quotes from comments, I only use **bold** emphasis within Inspired quotations (I do not indent quotations, unless they are fairly long); comments added within quotes are always in [brackets]; I use only one column, for ease of reading on computer screens; sections are lettered and separated by a (nearly) solid line, subsections are separated by a dashed line; any variation from traditional punctuation or emphasis is not a mistake (the reasons will be on the Website).

Sometimes acronyms are pronounced as a single word, such as these: ASAP, AWOL, NASA, PIN, RAM, etc (notice that the last two examples are real words, as well as acronyms). On the other hand, some acronyms are pronounced by saying each letter separately, such as these: ATM, UFO, VCR, C.O.D., U.S., etc. Here again, the last two examples spell real words, but they are not pronounced the same as the real words—instead, each letter is pronounced separately: “C”, “O”, “D” (not “cod”, as in the fish); “U”, “S” (not “us”, as in the pronoun similar to “we”). Now notice that these last two examples have periods after each letter; this is commonly done with abbreviations where each letter is pronounced separately, especially in cases where the abbreviation is also a real word—and the periods help show that it is an abbreviation or acronym, not merely a standard word.

At this point, you should be able to understand why there are periods after each letter in the name: S.T.U.D.Y. The periods are used to help show that the name is an acronym, and that it should be pronounced as five separate letters: “S”, “T”, “U”, “D”, “Y” (not merely the single word “study”). The purpose for this pronunciation is twofold: it helps to show that the name is based on five different words (not merely on one word), and spelling out the five letters makes a distinctive and unique ministry name (but the single word “study” is too common and generic). You may have noticed that the Website is not: [www.S.T.U.D.Y.org](http://www.S.T.U.D.Y.org); this is because you can’t use periods like that in the middle of a Web address. However, you can use hyphens (or dashes); so four hyphens (not five) are used between the five letters, in order to show that the name is five separate letters.

If you did not receive this via e-mail, please save me time and money by giving me your e-mail address; contact me at my e-mail address: [S\\_T\\_U\\_D\\_Y@juno.com](mailto:S_T_U_D_Y@juno.com)—with four underscores (shift of the hyphen), not five. If you have a computer but not e-mail, I can probably get you set up with e-mail for free (call me, 888-999-7883).

The subject of the next newsletter will be: “The First Principles of the Oracles of God”; until then:

**S.T.U.D.Y.** To Understand Doctrines Yourself

Tim, Sonya, and Teilen Simkin