***Gifts of the Reformation (1)***

***The English Bible***

John Wycliffe (1320-1384)—First English Bible, circulated in hand-written form by travelling preachers called the Lollards

1517 Martin Luther sets off the Protestant Reformation

1519 Seven English Martyrs

William Tyndale (1494-1536)—First printed English New Testament 1526.

**Why is it worthwhile to study God’s word diligently?**

**1. It will restore your *soul*** (v. 7).

**2. It will make you *wise*** (v. 7).

**3. It will give you *joy*** (v. 8).

**4. It will enlighten your *eyes*** (v. 8).

**5. It will make you *rich*** (v. 10).

**6. It will sweeten your *life*** (v. 10).

**7. It will turn you from *sin*** (vv. 11-13).

**8. It will purify your *meditation*** (v. 14).

# For Additional Study or Family Discussion

Did the Lord speak to you today about Himself and His ways? Did He show you a duty you need to perform or a promise you need to claim? What was either encouraging or challenging in the sermon?

1. Acts 17:10-11. Why were the Bereans more noble-minded than the Jews at Thessalonica?

2. 1 Timothy 2;15. What does Paul tell Timothy to do so that he would be able to handle the word of truth accurately?

3. Deuteronomy 17:18-20. This is part of God’s instruction for future kings of Israel. What was the king supposed to do with the book of God’s law?

4. If the Bible is so important why didn’t God make all of it easy to read and easy to understand? Presumably God knew what He was doing, so why does He hide His truth from lazy, careless readers?

What does God want us to do (Deuteronomy 4:29; 1 Chronicles 28:9; Jeremiah 29:13)?

What does a person’s diligence or laziness in reading and applying God’s word reveal about his love for the Lord?

5. 1 Corinthians 2:10-16. God revealed truth to the apostles and prophets who wrote down these revelations in Spirit-inspired words (10-13). Why do some people just not “get” the Bible (v.14)? Who enables the Christian to understand, appreciate, and apply the essential truths of the Bible (vv. 15-16)?

Words of William Tyndale –

To an ignorant clergyman: *I defy the Pope and all his laws. If God spare my life, ere many years pass, I will cause a boy that driveth the plow shall know more of the Scripture than thou dost.*

His last words before death: *Lord, open the king of England’s eyes.*