THE IMPORTANCE OF RIGHTFULLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF GOD

A. There are some unwelcomed tendencies present today.
   1. There is the tendency to study about the Bible without studying what’s in the Bible.
   2. There is the tendency neglect the Bible in classes.
      a. There are so many lesson helps prepared and quarterlies written that many teachers fail to use
         the Bible in their classes.
      b. The Bible school exists sole for Bible study.
      c. Whether it is called Bible School, Sunday School, Bible Classes, etc., the important thing is that the
         Bible should not lose its place in that school.
   3. There is the tendency not to encourage every student to bring a Bible to Bible class. If they do not
      have one or cannot afford one, the elders will see to it that they receive one.
   4. There is the tendency to emphasize method over content.
   5. There is the tendency to treat the Sunday School program as a necessary stepchild.

B. “Breaking Down” a Scripture infers that one is taking the larger and serving it in smaller
   portion.
   1. 2 Timothy 2:15 – “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be
      ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”
      a. KJV renders it: “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be
         ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”
      b. ASV renders it: “Give diligence to present thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth
         not to be ashamed, handling aright the word of truth.”
      c. RSV renders it: Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who has no
         need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.
   2. Either way, Scriptures are to be:
      a. **Rightly divided . . . not wrongly divided.**
      b. **Handled rightly . . . not handled wrong.**