

# Cookbook

## Scripture:

*The sum of your word is truth, and every one of your righteous rules endures forever. (Psalm 119:160)*

## Materials List:

- (1) Cookbook with several categories of recipes

## Main Message:

*We cannot take scriptures out of context and expect to reap God's intended result: salvation.*

**Song:** *Ancient Words*

## Lesson:

I was fixing dinner one night and pulled out my biggest cookbook, opened it up, and selected an ingredient from the recipe at the top of the page. I flipped a few pages over, picked another ingredient and tossed it in my bowl with the first. A quick flip to another recipe in the book, and in went two more ingredients. A pound of salmon, two cups of flour, three cans of peaches and some cinnamon sure sounded like a strange combination, but I figured it would probably be fine after I put it on the grill like the fourth recipe said to do. After all, it's all from the same book!

Okay... I didn't really fix dinner like that. And why not? Because it wouldn't work! In the same way, when we fail to consider the context of scriptures we are using, we can really make a jumbled up mess! What if I wanted to make a delicious dessert? Could I select a pie crust recipe from an apple pie, choose a chocolate pudding recipe and top it off with the meringue from a lemon meringue pie's instructions? Sure! We can use scriptures together and come out of our study with some beautiful truths... so long as we consider the context! But just as trying to top my chocolate pudding pie with the cheese mixture of a tamale recipe will result in a stomach ache, pulling verses out of their context and smashing them together with others will result in eternal heartache.

**Prayer:** Thank God for the amazing completeness of His word and the gift of having all things that pertain to life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3). Ask Him to help guide you in accurately handling His word (2 Timothy 2:15).