

How to Study The Bible

With INTENTION and with ATTENTION!

- 1.) We must Adjust our schedule so that we have time in the Word! Without TIME it WON'T WORK!! We also must Focus our minds on what we are reading! **Without FOCUS it won't be Retained!**
- 2.) We must have Preparation, Purpose & Plan! We come READY to LEARN, LOVE & LIVE IT OUT!
 - a.) How do we **Prepare?** We start with **PRAYER!** Confess any sins that might hinder your time, & Ask The Holy Spirit to lead you and open your eyes and heart to what you are reading. **Without being Prepared, it will be LIMITED**
 - b.) What is our **Purpose?** To **KNOW** God! This is a book, not about us, but about HIM! **Without a PURPOSE it won't Matter to us!**
 - c.) What is our **Plan?** There are many different ways we can study the Bible. I will list them. The easiest is a 3 step approach which is explained in more detail on a separate page. Whichever one will work for you, use that, because a Plan is important. **Without a PLAN we may QUIT!**

Topical study,	Chapter-Summary Method,	Book Survey Method,
Thematic Method,	Word Study Method,	Character Analysis,
Meditation Method,	Study by Prayer,	Study as a WHOLE,
Inductive Method		

In All these different ways you can study, remember what Jesus wants in our study...

<u>Jesus Wants</u>	<u>Studying The Bible</u>
<p>To Be Our FOCUS! -John 6:25-33</p>	<p>Come to the Bible ready to KNOW the Author! -John 1:18, John 17:1-6, Jer. 9:23-24, 2 Pet 3:18</p>
<p>To Be Our FOOD! -John 6:34-59</p>	<p>Come to the Bible Ready to SUBMIT to and TAKE IN what it says! -Jer 15:16, Ps 119:103, Ez 3:1-3, Matt 5:6, 1 Pet 2:2, Heb 5:12-13</p>
<p>To have our FAITH in His Word LIVED OUT! -John 6:60-71</p>	<p>Come to the Bible ready to DO what the Word says! -Romans 10:17, Heb 11:6, James 2;14-26, John 14:15, 2 John 1:6</p>

3 Step Inductive Method

1.) **OBSERVE** - What does the passage **SAY**?

Look At Terms, Structure, Emphasis, Repetition, Relationships between ideas, cause & effect, "If's & Thens",

Questions & Answers, Comparisons and Contrasts, What type of literary form - Discourse, Prose, or Poetry, Mood

Then the 4 W's: Who are the people in the passage, who are the people it was written to or written about?

What is happening in the passage?

Where is the passage/story taking place?

When is it taking place?

*These are the bridge Questions

2.) **INTERPRET** - What does the passage **MEAN**?

The 5 Clues of Interpreting the scripture: The 5 C's:

a.) Context – They say 75% of wrong interpretation comes from not understanding the context. What comes before, and after, and all around a passage.

b.) Cross-References – Let Scripture interpret Scripture. Let other passages shed light on the one you're studying. Good study Bibles will have cross-reference sections. *Warning not every word means the same thing!

c.) Culture – The Bible was written so long ago that we must read it with the understanding of what was happening in the Author's cultural context

d.) Conclusion – After your questions are answered it is a Great idea to write a conclusion or summary of what the passage or paragraph is saying. If you are studying a chapter, you may have an overarching conclusion and then smaller ones as well.

e.) Consultation – Once you have made your conclusions it is helpful to check your conclusions with that of bible scholars, i.e, commentaries. *They should be trusted works! NOT everything on the Internet is trustworthy!!!

3.) **APPLY** - What I am going to do with what this passage says and means?

THIS IS THE LIFE CHANGE PART!!! This is being Obedient to The Word, and Becoming More Like Christ!

Helpful Questions to ask about what you've studied:

a.) How does this Truth affect my relationship with God?

b.) How does this Truth affect my relationship with others?

c.) How does this Truth affect ME, personally?

d.) How does this affect how I deal with my enemy, the Devil?