

BIBLE STUDY

MADE EASY



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HENDRICKSON
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Bible Study Made Easy
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HOW TO BEGIN

GOD'S WORD can change your heart and transform your life. The Bible wasn't written to be merely history or a piece of great literature. It is meant to be read with both the mind and heart. God loves you and wants you to love him. As Deuteronomy 8:3 reminds us, "Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord."

Studying the Bible does not mean becoming an expert in one passage or book. It means we dig deeply so we can be deeply transformed. The more we know about God, the more we can love him.

God gave the Bible to the church. Reading and studying the Bible in community is very rewarding. Share what you've learned with others. Their questions will challenge you to pray and study more to find the answers.

***“Read it through; pray it in;
live it out; pass it on.”***

—GEORGE GRITTER

Basic Tips for Bible Study

❖ Plan a Study Time

Decide on a quiet time and place to study God's Word and make it a daily habit, like eating. Some people get up early to spend time with God. Others study during the day or evening.

❖ Pray

Ask God to help you understand his Word. Pray using your own words or something like this: "Lord, thank you for the Bible, which teaches us who you are and what you want for our lives. Please help me understand it and do what you want me to do." In Jeremiah 33:3, God promises: "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."

❖ Read and Re-read It

The Bible is the most important letter you can ever receive—a message from the God of the universe who made you, loves you, and wants to communicate with you. Open your "love letter" every day. Re-read each chapter and verse several times.

❖ Know the Author

Read Genesis to learn about the God who created the world. All Scripture is inspired by God. God actually

visited Earth in the form of man—the man Christ Jesus. Jesus said, “I and the Father are one” (John 10:30). Read the Gospel of John to learn about God’s plan for you.

❖ **Take Notes**

Write notes about what you read. Use a specific notebook or journal especially for Bible study. The four steps of inductive Bible study will help you look at God's word and discover how it applies to you. You might want to underline key verses or write notes in the margin of your Bible.

❖ **Make the Bible Your Authority**

Accept and believe that what the Bible says is true. You may not understand everything in the Bible, but obey and apply what you do understand.



Seven Ways to Read the Bible

1 Prayerfully

Before you begin, ask God to speak. Ask him for “ears to hear.”

2 Expectantly

Believe that God wants to speak to you, even more than you want to hear from him. Then be alert for his voice.

3 Devotionally

See your Bible reading as personal time with God rather than an assignment to learn new information about God.



4 Slowly

Don't be in a rush. Linger. Savor the words.

5 Comprehensively

Read through a whole book of the Bible. Don't ignore big sections of Scripture. Consider reading the entire Bible cover to cover. That's the best way to get the truest sense of who God is, and what his story is about.

6 Regularly

Exercising once every three weeks is better than nothing, but it isn't likely to get you in great physical condition. In the same way, occasional Bible reading isn't the optimal way to cultivate your relationship with God or prepare for helping others know God.

7 Obediently

Always read with a mind-set of "I will do whatever God commands."

Become Familiar with the Bible

❖ Memorize the order of the books of the Bible.

THE OLD TESTAMENT

PENTATEUCH

Genesis

Exodus

Leviticus

Numbers

Deuteronomy

POETRY & WISDOM

Job

Psalms

Proverbs

Ecclesiastes

Song of Songs
(Song of Solomon)

PROPHETIC

MAJOR

Isaiah

Jeremiah

Lamentations

Ezekiel

Daniel

MINOR

Hosea

Joel

Amos

Obadiah

Jonah

Micah

Nahum

Habakkuk

Zephaniah

Haggai

Zechariah

Malachi

HISTORICAL

Joshua

Judges

Ruth

1 Samuel

2 Samuel

1 Kings

2 Kings

1 Chronicles

2 Chronicles

Ezra

Nehemiah

Esther

NEW TESTAMENT

GOSPELS	PAULINE EPISTLES	GENERAL EPISTLES
Matthew	Romans	Hebrews
Mark	1 Corinthians	James
Luke	2 Corinthians	1 Peter
John	Galatians	2 Peter
	Ephesians	1 John
Acts (of the Apostles)	Philippians	2 John
	Colossians	3 John
	1 Thessalonians	Jude
	2 Thessalonians	Revelation
	1 Timothy	
	2 Timothy	
	Titus	
	Philemon	

