

Bible Study Starter Guide

Why Bible Study Matters

Bible study is the pathway to knowing God more deeply. It's more than reading verses or hearing sermons—it's engaging personally and prayerfully with God's living Word, allowing it to transform your heart and life.

Getting Started: 5 Simple Steps to Grow in Bible Literacy

1. Choose One Book of the Bible to Study

Don't jump around! Pick a book like John, Psalms, or Ephesians, and read it from start to finish. This helps you see the big picture and understand the message God is speaking.

2. Ask These Key Questions as You Read:

- What does this passage reveal about God?
- What does it say about people?
- How does it point to Jesus?
- What is God calling me to do in response?

3. Use Study Tools Wisely

Study Bibles, commentaries, and trusted resources can deepen your understanding. But always read the Scripture first—let it speak for itself before consulting others.

4. Write Notes and Pray

Keep a journal or notebook to jot down insights, questions, and prayers. Ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to God's truth.

5. Study Alongside Sisters in Christ

Find a Bible study group in your local church to study with regularly. Discussing Scripture in community strengthens faith and accountability.

Getting Started: A Trusted Bible Study Method

The inductive Bible study method involves answering three questions:

- What does it say? (Observation)
- What does it mean? (Interpretation)
- What should I do? (Application)

1. Observation

Ask questions.

- Who wrote it? Said it? About whom? Speaking to whom?
- What happened? What are the main events? The major ideas? The major themes?
- When was it written? Did the events take place? Will it yet happen?
- Where did this happen?
- Why was it written?
- How did it happen? Is it done?

2. Interpretation

Ask these kinds of questions to help you understand the implications of the text:

- What does this passage teach me about God?
- What does this passage teach me about Jesus?
- What does this passage teach me about man?
- Are there any promises to claim?
- Are there any commands to obey?
- Are there any examples to follow?
- Are there any sins to avoid?

3. Application

After we've learned the "what," now we ask the question, "So what?" Ask such questions as:

- How does this truth apply to my life? To my situation?
- In view of this truth, what changes need to be made in my life?
- What practical steps can I take to apply this truth to my life?

Reflection Questions to Help You Grow

- Am I spending enough time studying God's Word myself, or mostly consuming Christian media?
- Do I understand the context and message of the passages I read?
- How is my study of the Bible changing how I live and love?
- Who can I invite to join me in this journey?

Encouragement

Remember, Bible study is a lifelong journey, not a one-time project. God's Word is alive and active (Hebrews 4:12), and He promises to guide and sustain you every step of the way (Isaiah 46:4). Take it one step at a time, and watch how He transforms your heart.

Prayer for Bible Study

Lord, thank You for Your living Word. Help me to open my Bible with eagerness and humility. Teach me to understand Your truth and to live it out in my daily life. Send Your Spirit to guide me, to reveal Jesus in every passage, and to strengthen my faith. Surround me with sisters who will encourage and grow with me. In Jesus' name, Amen.