

## How to Study your Bible – (short daily version)

1. Block off a period of time. If you can do that at least 3 – 5 times each week, you are ahead of the game. Put aside about 30 – 45 minutes (one TV show or less time).
2. Pray – that God’s Holy Spirit leads you to an understanding of What you are reading.
3. Keep a pencil, pen and perhaps some notepaper or a small notebook at hand. Your Bible is a “workbook” and “owner’s manual” for your life.
4. Turn off any distractions. TV, radio, phone. The world wants to distract you & prevent you from reading God’s love letter to you.
5. Even if your day is difficult, read anyway. You’ll feel better. Really “Loving” God is all about being obedient. Living an abundant life in Christ is living an obedient life.
6. Choose a book to read. If you are new to Bible reading & study, start “easy!” The Gospel of Mark has plenty of action. For “older believers,” John’s Gospel is deep & rich. If you want to start in the Old Testament, the Book of Ruth is a great read because of the simplicity and beauty of the text.

Psalms is good to keep at hand especially when you’re in a “funk” or when you don’t know how to pray or even think.

7. Read as much of the book you have chosen in that time period as you can. Chances are that you will be able to read most if not all of it in 30 – 45 minutes.
8. As you are reading, make notations in the text or in the margins that “catch your eye.” You may have heard the text spoken by or about by someone else in the past & suddenly, GOD catches your attention. That small mark will help you when you return to that verse later on.
9. In your mind’s eye, try to imagine the action of the text – the people, places, setting, even environmental sounds & smells. Put yourself into the action. Ask yourself, “who, what, why, when, where, how.” Be active versus passive.
10. If you don’t understand what you’ve just read, DON’T WORRY ABOUT IT! God himself will teach you what He wants you to know. Observe First. The text itself will aid in interpreting.
11. When finished reading, PRAY again. Thank God for what he has shown you or taught you.

---

### 11 TIPS FOR DAILY BIBLE STUDY

1. BLOCK OFF TIME
2. PRAY FOR GUIDANCE
3. GRAB A PEN FOR NOTES
4. TURN OFF DISTRACTIONS
5. ADJUST YOUR ATTITUDE
6. CHOOSE YOUR BOOK
7. READ FOR AS LONG AS YOU CAN
8. MARK OR HIGHLIGHT
9. IMAGINE!
10. DON'T GIVE UP
11. PRAY & THANK GOD FOR HIS WISDOM

## Things to keep in mind when getting started in a regular reading or studying of God's Word.

1. "All of Scripture is **FOR** us, but not all of Scripture is **TO** us." God speaks to us at various times and in various ways as we travel the road of life. What may be very important to someone's life at one reading may not be important to you at the time. Don't worry, when needed, God WILL bring it to your attention when necessary.
  2. "All of Scripture is God-breathed and is useful in Teaching, Rebuking, Correcting and Training in righteousness." 1 Tim. 3:16. Sometimes the Word will teach you, other times it will rebuke you, it will also correct you when you need to be corrected (wrong thinking) and it will also train you in HOW to live a Godly life.
  3. As you begin a regular routine of daily Bible reading & study, keep in mind that you first want to simply **OBSERVE** what the Word is telling you. Don't be concerned about interpreting and applying it yet. The more that you can observe, the better an interpretation and then application you will make. Remember that the best teachers of the Bible have spent years and **DECADES** of time studying. God is not in a rush. We're not in a race to see who can read the most verses in their life.
  4. Make reading & studying as enjoyable as you can! Read it out loud – use as many of your senses to experience the Word (orally, aurally, visually). God's Word is living. Be willing to be pierced as well as blessed as you read.
  5. Keep Bible reading & studying as fresh as you can. The Bible is God's love letter written personally to **YOU**.
  6. Your Bible will get dirty, messy & "war torn". That's a good thing! The Bible is not meant to be a lovely volume to decorate a shelf in your library or living room. It is a written Word meant to illuminate your mind, gladden your heart, lift your spirit & convict your conscience. "Man looks at the outward appearance, but God looks at the heart..." 1 Sam. 16:7.
  7. Remember to realize the **CONTEXT** of what you are reading. Don't take a phrase or verse out of its context. Many verses **ARE** taken out of their context in order to prove or make known a particular agenda or movement. The Bible is a complete rendering of God's Words. Everything we need to know about God is in there. Everything we need to know about living is in there. The Bible has complete continuity in its message from Genesis 1:1 to Revelation 22:21. Jesus Christ is the Center of it all. The Old Testament looked forward **TO** Him and the New Testament looks at what He accomplished.
  8. Finally, **ENJOY**. If you miss a day, don't make yourself a wreck. But do get right back into it. The more you read & study, the more you will **WANT** to read & study.
- 

### 8 THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND WHEN YOU STUDY YOUR BIBLE

1. FOR US OR TO  
US

2. T.R.C.T  
(2 TIM. 3:16)

3. OBSERVE  
FIRST,  
INTERPRET  
LATER

4. USE ALL OF  
YOUR SENSES

5. KEEP IT FRESH -  
GOD'S LOVE  
LETTER TO YOU

6. BIBLE IS YOUR  
OWNER'S  
MANUAL

7. CONTEXT IS  
EVERYTHING

8. MAKE BIBLE  
READING &  
STUDY  
ENJOYABLE