

How To Study The Bible

PROAPT Method

This is a commonly used tool to help you study the Bible. Instead of just reading a passage, and fishing for something to speak to you, these steps will help you think about the passage more holistically and in context. This method is a great stepping stone to studying the Bible deeper as you grow in your faith.

Use this as a worksheet to fill out as you go. Eventually, you will no longer need to follow such a strict guide because the steps will come more naturally.

Date _____ Today's Passage _____

1. ___ **Pray** (Pray...Preview the text “Here I am Lord; come by your Spirit and teach me; I trust that you will speak.”)
2. ___ **Read** (Read the text you will study 1-3 times... slowly)
3. ___ **Observe** (What it says—copy down the verse(s) you feel God is speaking to you by either: 1) affirming you, 2) convicting you, and 3) saying something you don't understand. Also ask— 1) What is it saying about God? 2) What is it saying about me? Who does it speak about? How does it speak about me, them, the situation? Why does it say it “think about the context of the whole paragraph”?)
Interpret the above material by:
 - a. what did it mean to “them, then”, the original recipients
 - b. Paraphrasing it
 - c. Listing comparisons and contrasts
 - d. List all warnings, advice, and promises
 - e. Note any “if, then” statements

Now stop and spend some time in quiet reflection

4. ___ Apply (What does it mean to “us, now”)

- a. What truth should I believe?
- b. What am I to do... and how will it affect my actions, attitudes, relationship with God or others?
- c. How can I do something about this in the next 48 hours?

5. ___ Pray (see “How to Pray” essential)

6. ___ Tell (Find a prayer partner, preferably someone in your small group. Let them know what Jesus is saying and doing in you. These can become some of the most quality times of your life. They can also help you know what steps to take if the Lord wants you to say something to someone else.)

What: _____

To Whom: _____

When: _____