

How to Study the Bible

Mastering the Art of Studying the Bible

TALK IT OVER

Key Scriptures

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip His people to do every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 NLT

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

James 1:22 NIV

Surely He took up our pain and bore our suffering ... But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on Him, and by His wounds we are healed.

Isaiah 53:4-5 NIV

If we confess our sins, [God] is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9 NIV

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Ephesians 4:32 NIV

Other Key Scriptures

John 1:1, 14 NIV

1 Corinthians 8:1 NLT

Philemon 1:12-16, 18-19 NIV

5 Different Ways to Approach the Bible

1. You can start with a book of the Bible.
2. You can study a person in the Bible.
3. You can study a topic in the Bible.
4. You can do a daily devotional or YouVersion Bible Plan.
5. You can read through the whole Bible.

Start talking. *Find a conversation starter for your group.*

- What was your favorite subject in school? What made it interesting or exciting to you?

Start thinking. *Ask a question to get your group thinking.*

- Did you try a new approach to studying the Bible this week? How did it go?
- Read **2 Timothy 3:16-17**. The Bible is meant to transform us, not just inform us. How have you seen this transformation in your own life?

Start sharing. *Choose a question to create openness.*

- Talk about the barriers that make it difficult for you to spend time in God's Word. How can you help one another stay disciplined in reading the Bible this week?
- What are you most looking forward to as you plan how you'll study the Bible this week? Talk about any new ways you plan on approaching the Bible.

Start praying. *Be bold and pray with power.*

Dear God, thank You for providing us with the Bible. When it's hard to understand, please provide us with understanding. And when it's hard to be consistent, please help us to keep pressing in. This week, would You help us know You better through reading the Bible? In Jesus' name, amen.

Start doing. *Commit to a step and live it out this week.*

- Check out this five-step guide to reading and understanding the Bible at www.life.church/biblestudy
- Start the Bible Plan, *The Bible: Explained* using Plans With Friends: www.go2.lc/thebible
- Consider how you could love others by serving and ask God to guide you to the right ministry.