



Simple Ways to Study the Bible

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Method #1: Simple way to study the Bible

The goal of this method is simple. You will simply write down what each verse says about Jesus.

Tools Needed

- ☑ **Bible:** preferably New American Standard Bible (NASB), English Standard Version (ESV), New King James Version (NKJV), or King James Version (KJV)
- ☑ **Ring Binder:** a spiral could also work, a Word document could also work
- ☑ **Notebook Paper**
- ☑ **Pen or Pencil**

Steps

1. **Pray!**

Ask God to give you eyes to see His truth.

Ask God to help you understand His truth.

This is His Word, He alone, through the Holy Spirit, can help you understand His truth.

2. **Open the Book of John and read the first chapter.**

3. **Take your notebook paper and write John 1 at the top of your page.**

4. **On the next line write v.1.**

5. **Write down everything verse one tells you about Jesus.**

Use only the words of the scripture.

6. **Continue with each verse in Chapter 1.**

Do only as many verses as you want to each day.

- Be sure you ponder and think about what you learned when you are finished.
- Consider journaling what has hit your heart.
- The goal is not just to know facts, but to let God's truth seep deeply into your heart and mind.

Example of The Simple Way to study the Bible

John 1

- v.1 Jesus is the Word
- v.2 In the beginning He was with God
- v.3 Created all things
- v.4 In Him was life and the life was the light of men
- v.5 Jesus' light shines in the darkness but the darkness did not comprehend it
- v.9 He is the true light who came into the world
- v. 9 He is the true light who came to enlightens every man
- v.10 He made the world, but the world did not know Him
- v.11 He came to His and they did not receive Him
- v.12 He gives the right to become a child of God thru believing in His name
- v.14 He was the only begotten of the Father
- v.14 He was full of grace and truth
- v.15 He existed before John
- v.16 We received of His fullness and grace and grace upon grace
- v.17 Grace and Truth are realized thru Jesus
- v.18 Jesus is the only begotten God
- v.18 Jesus is in the bosom of the Father
- v.18 Jesus explains God
- v.29 Lamb of God
- v.29 Takes away the sin of the world
- v.30 Jesus is a higher rank than John
- v.30 Jesus existed before John
- v.33 The Spirit descended on Jesus and remained
- v.33 He baptizes in the Holy Spirit
- v.34 Jesus is the Son of God
- v.36 Lamb of God
- v.41 The Messiah which means the Christ
- v.48 Told Nathanael that he saw him under fig tree (He knew all things)
- v.49 Called Son of God the King of Israel

Method #2: Deeper, but still simple way, to study the Bible

The goal of this method is to pick a book of the Bible and write down everything the verses tell you about God, about Jesus, and about yourself.

Tools Needed

- Bible:** preferably New American Standard Bible (NASB), English Standard Version (ESV), New King James Version (NKJV), or King James Version (KJV)
- Ring Binder:** a spiral could also work, a Word document could also work
- Notebook Paper**
- Pen or Pencil**

Steps

1. Pray!

Ask God to give you eyes to see His truth.

Ask God to help you understand His truth.

This is His Word, He alone, through the Holy Spirit, can help you understand His truth.

2. Pick a book of the bible that you want to study, like Ephesians.

3. Read the entire book of Ephesians in one sitting for your first day of study.

4. The next day, you will first pray, then read the entire first chapter of Ephesians.

Note: you will always pray first and you will always try to read the entire chapter of the book you are working on.

5. Write the date at the top of your notebook page and the passage you will be studying.

6. Write out the verses you have chosen.

Be sure to write the verse number first then the verse.

7. Write the word "God"

Write down everything the verses tell you about God using only the words of the verse.

8. Write the word "Jesus"

Write down everything the verses tell you about Jesus using only the words of the verse.

9. Write the word "Me"

Write down everything the verses tell you about yourself using only the words of the verse.
Use personal pronouns.

- But be sure you ponder and think about what you learned when you are finished.
- Consider journaling what has hit your heart.
- The goal is not just to know facts, but to let God's truth seep deeply into your heart and mind.
- All of this is very repetitive. The purpose is to help you grasp what the Word is saying and to retain it.

Example of how to study the Bible in a deeper, but still simple way

August 18, 2020 Ephesians 1:3-6 NASB

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, ⁴ just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love ⁵ He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, ⁶ to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

- God:*
- v3 Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
 blessed me with every spiritual blessing in heavenly
 places in Christ
 - v 4 chose me in Christ before foundation of the world
 chose me to be holy and blameless
 in love....kind of randomly placed here!
 - v5 (IN LOVE v4) predestined me to adoption through Jesus to Himself
 has kind intentions towards me in His will
 - v6 His grace should be praised for its glory
 - v6 He freely bestows His grace on us in the Beloved (Jesus)
- Jesus:*
- v3 God is Jesus' father
 All spiritual blessings are found in Jesus
 - v4 I was chosen in Jesus to be holy and blameless before Him..i.e. God...
 - v5 In love I was predestined to be adopted by God through Jesus
- Me:*
- v3 I am blessed with every spiritual blessing in Jesus
 - v4 I was chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world.
 I was chosen in Christ to be holy and blameless
 - v5 In love He predestined me to adoption to Himself
 God has kind intentions towards me
 - v6 I have God's grace freely bestowed on me in the Beloved, who is Jesus

Method #3: In depth way to study the Bible

The goal of this method is to pick a book of the Bible and write down everything the verses tell you about God, about Jesus, and about yourself, and explore the richer meaning of the words.

Tools Needed

- ☑ **Bible:** preferably New American Standard Bible (NASB), English Standard Version (ESV), New King James Version (NKJV), or King James Version (KJV)
- ☑ **Ring Binder:** a spiral could also work, a Word document could also work
- ☑ **Notebook Paper**
- ☑ **Pen or Pencil**

Steps

1. Pray!

Ask God to give you eyes to see His truth.

Ask God to help you understand His truth.

This is His Word, He alone, through the Holy Spirit, can help you understand His truth.

2. Follow all the steps in Method #2

3. On another sheet of paper, write the date at the top and the verse you will be studying. In this example I will use Ephesians 1:3.

4. Look up the definitions of the words of the verses you have studied.

I use an online tool www.blueletterbible.org to do this, which I will now call BLB.

5. Open BLB and search for “Ephesians 1”

Type this in the blank space below “Search the Bible”

6. Select the version of the Bible you want to use. I prefer NASB, ESV, NKJV, or KJV.

7. Click on the magnifying glass to the right in a green square.

All the verses in Chapter 1 will now be seen.

8. Scroll down to 1:3 and click on “tools” to the left of the verse. Click on the number and the definition will pop up.

9. Write the definitions on your notebook paper.

You do not have to define all of the words but just the main ones. Note: you might discover that words you think you can easily define actually have amazing meanings in the Greek if you look them up. With that in mind I like to look up as many of the main words that I can.

We will look up **blessed** which has the number **G2128** to the right of it. The G is for “Greek”. On your notebook paper write the word, “blessed” and the number G2128, and the definition. For example: blessed, praised.

Using the arrow in the top left of the page go back to the previous page and go to **has blessed** with the number **G2127** beside it. Click on the number G2127. On your notebook paper write the word, “has blessed” and the number G2127 beside it. This word has many definitions, as

do many Greek words. We are not scholars, so pick the word that you think best fits in this verse. For example: to cause to prosper, to make happy, to bestow blessing.

Using the arrow in the top left of the page go back to the previous page and go to **spiritual** with the number **G4152** beside it. Click on the number G4152. On your notebook paper write the word “spiritual” and the number G4152 beside it. This word has many definitions, so pick the one you think best matches this verse. For example: belonging to God, the Holy Spirit.

10. When you have finished the words in this verse you might want to journal any insights you had or discoveries. This is how you ponder and meditate on what you have learned.

You might try rewriting the verse using the definitions of the words and journal at the same time. The goal is not to write a masterpiece, but to write to God from your heart, expressing the truth of what you found in the verses using the definitions and then perhaps writing out how that made you feel or perhaps questions you might have, asking God to answer your questions.

11. Then you will move on to verse 2 etc.

Remember these things:

- This is not a race.
- There is no time frame to do this.
- Do as much or as little as you can.
- Always make time to ponder and meditate on what you have learned.
- The goal is to have God’s truth go deeply into your heart and mind.
- I do not usually write on the back of my notebook paper so I can refer back to the written verses or other things much easier without flipping my page back and forth.
- If you absolutely love this third method of study, then I recommend that you purchase this book to get your definitions from. You will get your numbers from BLB, but you will use this book to write your definitions: *The Complete Word Study Dictionary by Spiros Zodhiates*

These are all suggestions. Feel free to adapt to best fit your preferences.

