

An Inductive Study of Scripture

WELCOME

The Word Speaks Digital Library was created to serve as a helpful resource for studying God's Word on your own, with a friend or in a small group. It is our prayer that your knowledge and love of the Bible will deepen, your desire for our Savior will grow and your time spent in prayer will be deeply meaningful.

As you begin, please take a moment to look through the Guide to Bible Study. It is filled with helpful tips and practical insights to support and enrich your time in Scripture.

The digital library includes:

1. *An Inductive Study of Scripture*
2. A Study of Who God Is
3. Intentional Prayer Journal

An Inductive Guide to Bible Study

The Word speaks – It speaks truth, wisdom, promise, correction, hope, love, and purpose into the lives of believers. By listening to and studying the Bible, God’s words to us, we learn about who God is, how He cares for us, and what His design is for our lives. This leads us to obedience, life change, and worship!

Making a Plan & Guiding Questions as You Study a Passage of Scripture

Once you have selected a book of the Bible or portion of Scripture, decide how long you will commit to study and divide the text into weekly sections to go over each time. For example –

A 12 week study of Ephesians: weeks 1-6 “Our Riches in Christ,” covering chapters 1-3 and weeks 7-12 “Our Walk in Christ,” covering chapters 4-6.

Each week you will go over the same guiding questions, taking time to read, reflect, and respond:

Question One

What does this passage teach you about Jesus, the Spirit and/or God the Father? (Who is He? What is His character? What does He do?)

Question Two

What does this passage teach you about man? (Who we are? What are we like? What do we do?) Consider what this passage reveals about fallen man and redeemed man.

Question Three

How does this passage impact you? (Consider the correction, instruction, encouragement, promise, or truth this passage offers.) How does this shape the way you live in your circumstances?

Question Four

How can you and others be praying this week as you apply the truths from this passage?

Question Five

In your own words, how would you summarize the verses you studied this week?

Getting Started

The “WHY” of Bible Study:

To know the written Word is to know the Living Word. It's possible to know many details about a person that you've never encountered personally, such as the color of their eyes, or their favorite place for dinner. But a personal relationship implies that you have met them and spent time with them. Bible study helps you engage with the written Word so you not only know about God, but so that you know and experience an intimate relationship with the Living Word, Jesus Christ, and enjoy deep relationship with Him.

The “HOW” of Bible Study:

This study is not a “fill in the blank” study. Through a few thought-provoking questions, you will begin to dig into the text and have the opportunity to know God more fully as you apply truth to your life. Along the way, you will develop effective Bible study skills you can use over and over again that will not be dependent on a Bible study curriculum.

Each lesson provides an opportunity to summarize the passage. Taking time to do this will help with deeper understanding and application.

The Bible text is included to give space for underlining, highlighting, and making special notes along the way.

Also included is a space to jot down prayer requests, as well as requests of those with whom you may be studying.

The “GOAL” of Bible Study:

The ultimate goal of study is to know and love God more fully. As you do, you will begin to delight in who He is as the truth of His Word transforms you. There are so many wondrous things to contemplate as you study His Word.

Consider the Context

Understanding the context is essential to understanding the text. Context helps us to understand the intent of the passage which will result in accurately applying Scripture.

Before plunging into the text, there are initial questions you will want to answer. At first glance, this might seem intimidating, but a good study Bible or a reliable online resource such as biblegateway.com can easily answer those questions for you. The introduction to each book provides valuable information as you begin your study.

Questions to ask about the book of the Bible as you study:

- Who wrote this portion of Scripture?
- Who was it written for?
- What genre of literature is being used?
- When and where was the book written?
- Why was this book written? What is its purpose?

Question One

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What does this passage teach you about man? (Who we are? What are we like? What do we do?)
Consider what this passage reveals about fallen man and redeemed man.

Question Three

How does this passage impact you?

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