

Intro

Why people don't study the Scriptures

- Not enough time
- Too boring
- Not relevant
- Can't understand it
- I'm not a pastor

The Method at a Glance

- Observation (Who, what, why where, when, how)
- Interpretation (context, context, context)
- Application (Now what?)

Bible study is a methodical process. It is structured and systematic, thoughtful and thorough

Aren't "methodical" and "spiritual" mutually exclusive terms?

No, the Holy Spirit must illuminate the mind in order for understanding to occur (1 Corinthians 2:10-15, Romans 12:1-2)
Studying the Scriptures involves performing specific steps in a specific order to achieve a specific result.

The purpose of all Bible study is life-change

Why do we need to study the Scriptures?

Benefits

1 Peter 2:2 "like newborn babes, long for the pure milk of the word, that by it you may grow in respect to salvation."

Hebrews 5:11-14

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Admonitions

Hebrews 2:1

2 Timothy 2:15

Examples from Scripture

Daniel 9:1-2

Luke 1:1-4

Acts 17:11

What you will need

- A good Bible
- A good dictionary
- Paper and a pencil
- A willing heart

It is only when truth is
discovered that it is
appropriated.

When a man is simply
told the truth, it
remains external to
him and he can quite
easily forget it.

When he is led to
discover the truth
himself, it becomes an
integral part of him and
he never forgets.

-William Barclay

Tools for Bible Study

1. Bible

For study

New American Standard (NASV)
New International Version (NIV)
New King James Version (NKJV)

For reading

New Living Translation (NLV)
Phillips
Amplified

2. Dictionary and Encyclopedia

English dictionary
Unger's Bible Dictionary
The New Bible Dictionary
Zondervan Pictorial Encyclopedia of the Bible
International Standard Bible Encyclopedia

3. Concordance

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible
Young's Analytical Concordance of the Bible
Englishman's Greek Concordance
New American Standard Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible

4. Bible Atlas

Oxford Bible Atlas

5. General Reference

Bible Almanac
Unger's Bible Handbook
Introduction to the Old Testament (Glendon Archer)
A Survey of Israel's History (Leon Wood)
An Introduction to the New Testament (D. Edmund Hiebert)
Introduction to the New Testament (Donald Guthrie)
New Testament Survey (Robert Gromacki)
New Testament History (F. F. Bruce)

6. Commentaries (for background information)

Matthew Henry
The New Bible Commentary (Donald Guthrie)

7. Additional Study Helps

The Joy of Discovery (Oletta Wald)
Methodical Bible Study (Robert Traina)
Independent Bible Study (Irving Jensen)
Creative Bible Study (Larry Richards)
Living by the Book (Howard Hendricks)

8. Computer Software

e-Sword (Rick Meyers) free at www.e-sword.net
QuickVerse for Windows (Parsons Technology)
Logos (Logos Software)