HOW TO STUDY YOUR BIBLE

Know Him. Obey Him. Love Others To Jesus.

A Love Others To Jesus Discipleship Resource

THE GOAL IS MORE THAN INFORMATION

Bible study is not simply about collecting facts or completing a reading plan. God gave us His Word so that we might know Him, hear His truth, obey His voice, and become more like Jesus.

As we read Scripture, we should ask God to change our hearts and then show us how His truth should affect the way we live and love others.

> ***"But be doers of the word, and not hearers only."***
>
> **James 1:22**

The goal of Bible study is to:

Know Him.

Discover who God is and what He has done.

Obey Him.

Respond to His truth with faith and action.

Love Others To Jesus.

Allow what God teaches us to overflow into the lives of others.

FIVE STEPS TO LET GOD'S WORD CHANGE YOUR LIFE

1.

LOOK UP

Pray before you read.

2.

LOOK IN

Discover what the passage means.

3.

LOOK AT YOURSELF

Allow God's Word to examine your heart.

4.

LOOK FOR A STEP

Choose one practical act of obedience.

5.

LOOK OUT

Love Others To Jesus.

Use these five questions every time you study Scripture.

BEGIN WITH GOD'S HELP

1 LOOK UP

Pray Before You Read

The Bible is God's Word, and we need the Holy Spirit to help us understand and receive it. Begin by slowing down and asking God to open your eyes, correct your thinking, and prepare your heart to obey.

Ask:

- What is God revealing about Himself?
- What do I need God to help me understand?
- Am I willing to obey what He shows me?

A Simple Prayer

Lord, open my eyes to Your truth. Help me understand Your Word, receive what You say, and obey what You show me.

2 LOOK IN

Discover What the Passage Means

Read the passage carefully and more than once. Pay attention to the people, setting, repeated words, commands, promises, and main idea.

Before asking, "What does this mean to me?" first ask, "What did God intend this passage to mean?"

★ **Key Question:** What is the main truth God wants me to understand?

LET GOD'S WORD BECOME PERSONAL

1 LOOK AT YOURSELF

Let Scripture Examine Your Heart

God's Word does not merely tell us what is wrong with the world. It reveals what needs to change within us.

Do not rush past conviction. Allow Scripture to expose attitudes, habits, priorities, fears, and areas of disobedience.

Ask:

- Is there a sin I need to confess?
- Is there an attitude that needs to change?
- Is there a truth I need to believe?
- Is there something I need to surrender?

Key Question: *What needs to change in me because of what I have read?*

2 LOOK FOR A STEP

Put the Truth Into Practice

Bible study is incomplete until truth becomes obedience. Choose one clear and realistic action you can take.

Avoid vague statements such as, "I need to do better." Instead, write down exactly what you will do.

Key Question: *What will I do because of what God has shown me?*

LET GOD'S TRUTH OVERFLOW

LOOK OUT

Love Others To Jesus

God never intended spiritual growth to stop with us. What He teaches us should shape the way we speak, serve, forgive, encourage, give, invite, and share the gospel.

After studying the passage, ask:

- Who needs encouragement?
- Is there someone I should forgive?
- Is there someone I can serve?
- Who needs to hear this truth?
- Is there someone I should invite to church?
- Who needs to hear about Jesus?

Remember

You do not have to do something dramatic. Loving others to Jesus may begin with a prayer, a conversation, an encouraging message, a meal, an invitation, or a simple act of kindness.

Key Question: Who can I impact with what *God has taught me?*

WHAT SHOULD I LOOK FOR?

The LOTJ Study Filter

- ☐ A promise to trust
- ☐ A command to obey
- ☐ A sin to avoid
- ☐ A lesson to learn
- ☐ An example to follow
- ☐ A truth about God to celebrate
- ☐ Someone I can Love Others To Jesus

The LOTJ Journal Method

SCRIPTURE — What passage did I read?

TRUTH — What is the main truth?

CHANGE — What needs to change in me?

ACTION — What will I do?

MISSION — Who can I Love Others To Jesus?

BEGIN TODAY

A Simple Place to Start

If you are new to reading the Bible, begin with these books:

1. **John** — Meet Jesus and discover who He is.
2. **Mark** — See the life and ministry of Jesus.
3. **Acts** — Watch the gospel spread through the early church.
4. **James** — Learn how faith affects everyday life.

A Simple Daily Rhythm

Pray — Ask God to speak through His Word.

Read — Begin with a manageable passage.

Reflect — Use the five LOTJ questions.

Respond — Choose one act of obedience.

Reach — Look for someone you can love toward Jesus.

KNOW HIM.
OBEY HIM.
LOVE OTHERS TO JESUS.

> *"But be doers of the word, and not hearers only."*
> James 1:22