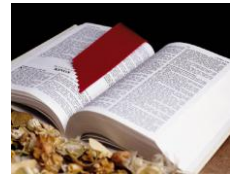


# How to Study the Bible

## Through the Bible Book-By-Book



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(Lead Teacher: *Through the Bible Book by Book*)

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**Study Book Supplement:** *How to Study the Bible*, Robert M. West, Barbour Publishing

### I. Bible Study Preparation

But sanctify [*Greek=consecrate, make holy, set apart*] the Lord God in your hearts: and *be* ready always to *give* an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: **1 Peter 3:15 (KJV)**

#### Dependency and Bible Study

- ❖ God, The Holy Spirit (guides, opens the Scriptures, applies to our personal situation)
- ❖ Other Mature, Well-Studied Believers
- ❖ Good Modern Translations (even if your primary translation is the KJV)
- ❖ Good Bible Study Helps

#### Top Ten Reasons for Bible Study (West)

1. To settle the issue of our own salvation
2. To grow spiritually
3. To receive personal blessing and encouragement
4. To receive personal guidance
5. To defend ourselves against the Devil
6. To effectively teach God's truth to the next generation
7. To be able to counsel others
8. To be ready to speak with unbelievers about Christ
9. To verify that the teaching of others is the Truth of God
10. To present ourselves approved of God

### 21 Things You'll Be Missing . . . A Perfecting Believers Discipleship (PBS) Bible Study Series

**THE QUESTION:** What does a believer miss by not having a regular, consistent study time and a lifestyle of studying the Word of God?

**THE ANSWER:** There are at least 21 things you as a believer will miss by not having a regular, consistent study time and a lifestyle of studying the Word of God.

See separate sheet.



### II. Bible Study Methods (Seeking a Balanced Study)

- ❖ Study BOTH Testaments – OT and NT
- ❖ Study BOTH the Doctrinal Teaching of Scripture and the Practical Living of it in daily life
- ❖ See Rick Warren's Bible Study Method Below (West's Six Methods are included)

### III. Bible Study Helps

#### Bible Study Aid Viewpoints

You most know the doctrinal/theological viewpoints of various Study Aids especially any resources with notes about the biblical text. (For a basic listing of important key doctrines see the COGIC statement as COGIC.org.)

- ❖ Modern Translation(s), even if your primary translation is the KJV
- ❖ Study Bibles (your most important resource)
- ❖ Bible Maps or Atlas
- ❖ Bible Dictionaries
- ❖ Bible Encyclopedias

- ❖ Exhaustive Concordance
- ❖ Biblical Commentaries
- ❖ The Internet (some wonderful free resources)
- ❖ Organizing Your Study Notes or Journal

## IV. Bible Study Interpretation

The best book on the subject still: *Protestant Biblical Interpretation* by: Bernard Ramm

- ➔ **Inductive Bible Study** – The KEY to knowing the Bible
- ➔ **Interpretation – Two Basic Principles**
  - ✓ **Careful Observation** of the Text and the Message of the Text - Historical and Literary  
(Contextual Observation –who, what, where, when, why.)
  - ✓ **Comparative Observation** (Compare with other Scriptures)
- ➔ **Application**

This is much dependent upon the general maturity, sanity, background, mental set, personality, *Sitz im Leben*, and other factors of the individual.

**IMPORTANT NOTE FOR EVERYBODY ON EARTH:** The interpretation will have ONE basic meaning (sometimes there is discussion among biblical interpreters as to what exactly IS the intended meaning). REMEMBER THIS: Your application and that of any other human being can be wrong. So, be careful in “applying” the Bible to your situation without sound thinking and teaching to back it up. The Holy Spirit is there (within in you) to guide you and open up the Scriptures (called, *illumination*) to you, **IF** you listen to Him and not the mere desires of your own heart and mind.

### **Rick Warren’s Bible Study Methods**

Also known as: *12 Dynamic Bible Study Methods*, Victor Books

[http://www.eachnewday.com/HowToStudyTheBible/the\\_Bible\\_study\\_methods.htm](http://www.eachnewday.com/HowToStudyTheBible/the_Bible_study_methods.htm)

Method 1 - The Devotional Method of Bible Study (West P. 67)

Method 2 - The Chapter Summary Method of Bible Study

Method Three - The Character Quality Method of Bible Study

Method Four - The Thematic Method of Bible Study

Method Five - The Biographical Method of Bible Study (West p.63)

Method Six - The Topical Method of Bible Study (West p. 62)

Method Seven - The Word Study Method of Bible Study (West p. 64)

Method Eight - The Book Background Method of Bible Study

Method Nine - The Book Survey Method of Bible Study (West p. 60)

Method Ten - The Chapter Analysis Method of Bible Study

Method Eleven - The Book Synthesis Method of Bible Study

Method Twelve - The Verse by Verse Method of Bible Study (West – Expositional, p. 60)