



Simple Bible Study Methods for Busy Women

3 Rs

Designed to help identify the main ideas of smaller chunks of Scripture (typically around 3 to 5 verses).

Best for people who have limited time each day or find it difficult to read and understand longer portions of Scripture in one sitting.

PROCESS

Read –

- Slowly read through the verses a few times. It may also be useful to read the verses aloud or listen to them via YouVersion or another Bible app.
- Make note of words or ideas that stand out, are repeated, or you are unclear about.

Reflect –

- Identify the main idea or focus of the verses.
- Write out a short summary of passage.
- Choose a key word or phrase to help you remember what you have read.

Respond –

- Using what you have read and written, reflect on what you have learned about God and about yourself.
- Pray for wisdom and understanding to apply what you have gleaned in your life.

5 Day Study Method

Designed to help overview books or larger passages of Scripture (like the Sermon on the Mount).

Ideal to use as starting point for a new study and to fill in with more detail throughout the study. Also useful if you are studying through a book with a group by chapter or section

PROCESS

Monday – Meditate

Take time to read through the passage or the whole book (if it's shorter). As you read, underline or circle words or phrases that stand out. If you have time, read through the book in a couple of translations, noting the differences in wording.

Tuesday – Transcribe

Write out the passage you are studying. This is helpful to let the words sink in deeper. Don't worry about how neat or sloppy you write, this is an opportunity for you to spend some time thinking about the passage.

Wednesday – Wrestle

Look over what you have underlined and what notes you made. Identify any phrases or ideas that stand out to you.

Look up words you don't understand and write out the definitions.

Read any verses cross-referenced and add notes about what they reveal.

Thursday – Think

Using study notes and commentaries, continue digging into the passage. Make note of new ideas or understanding you gain. Identify other passages connected to what you have read.

What does this passage reveal about the character and nature of God?

What does it reveal about the character and nature of man? How do you need to change in order to align yourself with the Lord?

Are there sinful habits or attitudes you need to confess after reading? Take time to do so. How does understanding these things give you reason to be grateful? What in this passage leads you to gratitude?

Friday – Feature

What are the main ideas in this passage? Summarize the passage in 2-3 sentences.

Reporter Method

Designed to help overview books or larger passages of Scripture (like the Sermon on the Mount).

Ideal to use as starting point for a new study and to fill in with more detail throughout the study.

PROCESS

Who?

- Who wrote the book? To whom?
- Who are the people in the book?

What?

- What is the context?
- What events surround the book?
- What are the main themes of the book?

When?

- When was the book written?
- When did the events take place?

Where?

- Where do the events of the book take place?
- Where does it fit into Bible chronologically?
- Where are the places mentioned in the book?
- Where was the book written?

Why?

- Why did the author write the book?
- Why is it directed to its audience?

How?

- How does the book fit into the big story of Scripture?
- How can I apply what I have read and learned into my life?

Identifying Truths

Designed to help focus attention on what a passage reveals about the character and nature of God and of man.

Ideal for helping to learn and improve the ability to observe what Scripture says.

PROCESS

After reading a passage several times, make a list of

- Truths about God
- Truths about man

Begin with writing down exactly what the passage clearly says. Then using that, develop further observations. This is a great way to deepen your understanding of a passage.

EXAMPLE

Using Colossians 1, here are some of the truths observed from these verses.

Truths about God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit

1. He gives us grace and peace (v. 2).
2. He is worthy of our gratitude (v. 3).
3. He is the hope laid up for us in heaven (v. 5).
4. He is our example to follow (v. 10).
5. He gives us strength through His power (v. 11).
6. He qualifies us for our inheritance (v. 12).
7. He delivers us from darkness to light (v. 13).
8. He is our redemption (v. 14).
9. Christ is the full image of God, equal in every way (v. 15).

Truths about me in light of the above

1. I cannot give myself grace and peace.
2. I must worship and give thanks through my prayers.
3. All my hope is in Him not me.
4. I am not the example to follow nor am I to look at other people as my example
5. I am not the source of my own strength.
6. I cannot qualify myself for His kingdom.
7. I cannot deliver myself from darkness to light.
8. I cannot redeem myself
9. I am not God.