




BIBLE STUDY QUICK START GUIDE

WHAT YOU NEED:

- A printed version of the text or the book of the Bible
- Printed Journeywomen handouts
- Pens, highlighters, or colored pencils
- A study Bible or the internet for cross referencing
- Extra paper or a journal for taking additional notes



*Open my eyes,
that I may behold
wondrous things out
of your law.
Psalm 119:18*

OBSERVATION: "WHAT DOES IT SAY?"

- Read the entire book at least one time
- Read and re-read the particular passage you're studying
- Determine the genre of the text: historical narrative, wisdom literature, prophetic literature, apocalyptic literature, gospel, epistle, etc.
- Note helpful historical information about what was going on in the world during the time in which this book/passage was written
- Answer the 5W's+H: who, what, where, when, why, and how?
- List repeated words, phrases, or ideas
- Make note of any key themes
- Look for transitional words/phrases, contrasts/comparisons, or lists
- Make note of any commands, warnings, or exhortations
- Write down any questions that come to mind as you're reading through the text
- List any words that need further defining
- Note what the passage teaches you about God the Father, God the Son, and the Holy Spirit

INTERPRETATION: "WHAT DOES IT MEAN?"

- Look up words from the passage that require further defining
- Re-read the sentences before/after the words or verses that need clarification
- Re-read the paragraphs before/after the verses that you have questions about
- Compare Bible translations to enhance your understanding
- Use cross references to answer the questions you wrote down during your observation of the text
- Reference maps, footnotes in your study Bible, or trusted commentaries to further aid your understanding of the passage
- Determine how the passage fits into the book
- Look for glimpses of the gospel in the passage
- Consider how the passage fits into the storyline of the Bible
- Summarize the passage in your own words

APPLICATION: "WHAT SHOULD I DO IN RESPONSE?"

- What is God prompting you to do as a result of what you've learned?
- Are there any areas of your life in which you need to walk in confession/repentance?
- How can you apply the truths of this passage to your life today?

PRAYER:

- Adore God for who he is, confess where you have fallen short, thank him for giving you understanding, and ask him to help you live in light of the truth of his Word.