The Basics- Using Guides

Guides are designed to function as your research assistants. Provide these guides with a word, topic, or passage and they will scour your library arranging the information for your use. Learning about each guide and its sections is an essential part of getting the most out of Logos.

As a reminder, the guides can be found under the Guides menu in the main application toolbar. These include the Passage Guide, Exegetical Guide, Bible Word Study Guide, Sermon Starter Guide, and Topic Guide. Each of these guides can easily be opened from the Guides menu.

Find the guides under the Guides Menu

For our purposes we will observe the guides in action by using the “Go” box on the Home Page. Here we can simply type in a passage or topic, and Logos will open the appropriate guides.
Let's start with 1 Corinthians 10:1-13. Notice that a layout has been opened for us designed for studying various passages. On the left we have the Passage Guide (1) and Exegetical Guide (2) open for our passage. In the top center, our top five prioritized Bible versions (3) have been opened, and in the bottom center, our top commentary (4) has been linked to our Bible. On the top right, we have the Information tool (5) which provides us access to many layers of information attached to the text, and in the lower right we have the Text Comparison tool (6) for easy comparison of various versions.

Let’s walk quickly through the Passage Guide.

The first section is **Commentaries** section providing a list of commentaries from your library with information on the designated passage. You can survey this information by simply clicking the links.

Second, the **Journals** section is designed to search the journals in your library that have been tagged as having discussion of your passage.

Third, the **My Content** section provides links to documents and guides you’ve created that contain references to the passage being studied.

Next, we have the **Cross References** section, and then **Ancient Literature**.

The **Ancient Literature** section provides a list of ancient literature that surrounds our text providing insight into the biblical world and how this text has been understood. For an Old Testament passage, this section will provide links to resources like Context of Scripture, ANET, and Ugaritic texts. We can also quickly discover citations, echoes, and allusions to our text in the Apostolic Fathers and
later Church Fathers. We can also gain insight from works like the Talmud and Mishnah, Nag Hammadi Codices, Old Testament Pseudepigrapha and the works of Josephus and Philo.

After Ancient Literature, we find the **Parallel Passages** section. This is great for comparing the Synoptic Gospels or quickly finding Old Testament quotations and allusions in the New Testament.

The **Systematic Theologies** section will search through the Systematic Theologies in your library and find places where your passage is used to discuss key subjects like Christology and Ecclesiology, etc.

In a similar way, the **Biblical Theologies** section connects us with works designed to explain how our passage ties into the overall theological message of the Old Testament, New Testament, and the Bible as a whole.

Next, the **Confessional Documents** section identifies how the historical and modern creed, confession, and catechism resources in your library utilize this passage in articulating key areas of doctrine.

The **Cultural Concepts** section helps us step back into the biblical world by providing a system for identifying abstract ideas in culture. Within Logos, this allows for research into how these abstract ideas are seen throughout the Bible and in other ancient literature. A simple click on the concept will take you to a Factbook article for further study.

The next three sections include **Biblical People, Biblical Places, and Biblical Things**. As we read through the Bible, we come across many people, places, and things that are unfamiliar to us. These sections will list each of these items found in our passage and once again give us quick access to the Factbook for further study.

There are several additional section in the Passage Guide to be explored on your own time. Now let’s move to the **Exegetical Guide**.

The **Exegetical Guide** is designed to provide analysis of various information related to the study of the original languages of our passage.

First, we have the **Textual Variants** section filled with text-critical information from Textual Commentaries, Apparatuses, various Greek and Hebrew editions, transcriptions, other Ancient Versions, and even the ability to view Online Manuscripts.

Second, the **Grammars** section lists articles from various language grammars that cite our passage in discussion. The results are even sorted by grammatical subject.

Third, the **Grammatical Constructions** section lists important grammatical phenomena that appear in the passage. We are provided with a definition of the
construction and the ability to quickly run a search to find other examples for comparison.

Next, the Visualizations section provides quick access to resources that visualize the grammar and structure of the passage. Several of these are the basis for running powerful syntax searches in Logos.

After this, we have Interactives and then the Word By Word section. The purpose of the Word By Word section is to organize word-level information for all the words in the passage. This makes finding this information and moving into word studies more efficient. Please note that you can change the settings in the upper right of the section header in order to see more or less words.

The final section of the Exegetical Guide is Lemma in Passage. This is designed to provide quick access to scholarly discussion on a specific word in relation to our passage in commentaries.

The next guide we want to discuss is the Bible Word Study guide. This guide can be accessed in many ways, but for our purposes we will use the Information tool on the top right. Once we click on a word in our passage, the Information tool will provide us with helpful information on that word including the lemma or lexical form linked to open the Bible Word Study guide.

Click the lexical form/lemma to open the Bible Word Study Guide

The Bible Word Study guide enables you to find in-depth information about a specific word. Provide the guide with a word in the Word box and the guide will fill up with word study information. A quick tip for doing this is to use h: to find a Hebrew word or g: to find a Greek word. Choose the correct lemma with the circle or translation ring to the left.
Use h: or g: to study Hebrew and Greek words with the Bible Word Study Guide

The first section, Lemma, shows the lexical form, pronunciation, gloss, and a sparkline showing the frequency of the word. We also have a list over every lexicon from our library that has an entry on the word. Don’t miss the Morphology Charts or paradigm charts at the bottom of the list.

Second, the Translation section reveals how a word has been translated by various interlinear bibles. The translation ring provides easy access to where this word is used in Scripture. Please note that you can change the interlinear version in the settings menu in the right of the section header. This even works great for observing how the LXX translates a specific Hebrew word throughout the Old Testament.

Third, the Septuagint Translation section shows a graph of Hebrew words that a specific Greek lemma is used to translate in the LXX.
The **Root** section shows all the roots of the word being studied and other lemmas derived from the same roots. This is great for broadening our study beyond a single word.

The **Senses** section provides a graph revealing the word senses or semantic domains that our specific word is used to describe. This is a great place to find synonyms.

Next, the **Example Uses** Section shows examples of differing grammatical functions of the word.

The **Clause Participants** section shows a list of how the word interacts with different parts of a clause in different contexts. The Semantic roles view uses linguistic categories while the Grammatical roles view uses more traditional categories like subject, object, etc.

The **Case Frames** section helps reveal thegrammatical contexts a specific verb requires based upon the biblical usage. This is driven by the syntactic structure of sentences and allows us to see how meaning is impacted by the syntax of a clause.

Next, the **Preposition Use** section shows the prepositions used with a noun or nominal form of the word being studied.

The **Phrases** section shows select phrases containing our word. With a click on the phrase we can run a search and find every occurrence in the biblical text.

Also, the **Lemma in Passage** section will find every place where our word is discussed in commentaries dealing with any area of Scripture.

Last, the **Textual Searches** section makes it very easy to run a search on our word in resources like the LXX, Apostolic Fathers, and more.

Now, let’s go back to the Home Page and put a topic in our “Go” box. Let’s use “temptation”. This brings up a different layout containing both the Topic Guide (1) and the Sermon Starter Guide (2).
A new layout is created for topic study including the Topic and Sermon Starter Guide

The **Topic Guide** collects information from your library on a topic or concept. For example, Temptation provides us with the **Topic** section supplying us with articles in reference works on the broad topic and the **Related Verses** section helps us find a selection of the passages where the topic is found.

The **Sermon Starter Guide** also deals with topics but provides additional content to help with preparing to illustrate and teach on a topic. The **Passage** section gives us a much more extensive listing of passages with this theme or topic.

The **Sermons** section searches any sermon collections we have in our library and finds sermons on the topic.

Next, the **Preaching Resources** section lists helpful resources for preaching on this topic from sermon illustrations, outlines, and even a hymnal.

And the last section we will discuss is the **Thematic Outlines** section, which provides outlined studies on subtopics related to the broad topic being considered.

As you can see the Guides truly act as our research assistants providing us with very quick access to an immense amount of content. But what do you do if you don’t always want to interact with all of these sections? What if you want a guide that only has say three or four of the sections designed for your specific needs?

You can easily create your own custom guide in Logos. In fact, this is an important way to help Logos function in a way that best fits your needs. To do this, let’s return to the Guides menu in the main application toolbar. In the bottom left of the pane, you will see the “Make a new guide template” link.
Once you click, the Guide Template Editor panel will open. First, give your guide a name (1). Next, notice that all of the guide sections for the Passage, Exegetical, Topic, and Sermon Starter are all listed on the left. Simply select the sections you want in your guide (2). Once listed on the right, you can customize these and arrange them as desired (3). Now simply close the panel.
Your custom guide can always be found under the Guides menu.

Custom guides are listed in the bottom left of the Guides menu

Simply open your guide and type in your passage. Now you have quick access the exact information you want and nothing more.

Type in your passage and use the sections that fit your needs

Now take time to consider how which guide sections would be most beneficial for your layouts and classroom needs.