

A Quick-Start Guide to Bible Study

This is just a suggestion for how to get started in Bible study.

For more ideas, check out the book *Rick Warren's Bible Study Methods: Twelve Ways You Can Unlock God's Word* (2006, Zondervan).

STEP ONE **PRAY for Insight:** Use these Scriptures:

- Psalm 139:23-24 (NIV): "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."
- Psalm 119:18 (NIV): "Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law [the Word]."

STEP TWO **READ & MEDITATE for Observation & Insight:** Read slowly.

STEP THREE **OBSERVE the Facts of the Passage:** Ask the questions:

- **Who** - is doing this? - is going to do this? - did this?
- **Why** - are they doing it? - are they going to do it? - did they do it?
- **What** - is it for? - will it be for? - was it for?
- **Where** - is it happening? - is it going to happen? - did it happen?
- **To whom** - is it happening? - is it going to happen? - did it happen?
- **When** - is it happening? - is it going to happen? - did it happen?
- **How** - are they doing it? - are they going to do it? - did they do it?

STEP FOUR **MEDITATE & DETERMINE Lessons That Can Be Learned From the Passage:** Use the S.P.A.C.E.P.E.T.S. acronym:
Is there any...

- Sin to confess?
- Promise to claim?
- Attitude to change?
- Command to obey?
- Example to follow?
- Prayer to pray?
- Error to avoid?
- Truth to believe?
- Something to praise God for?

STEP FIVE **PRAY About Which One Lesson You Need to Apply to Your Own Life**

STEP SIX **MAKE A PLAN to Obey the Application:** Make sure your plan is personal, practical, possible, and provable.