

BIBLE STUDY Methods

OPA Method

OBSERVATIONS

Compile all the facts found in the scripture passage(s). Make 20-30 observations about what you read.

PRINCIPLES

Draw a few principles from the observations you made. What is God trying to teach you in this passage?

APPLICATIONS

How will you apply these principles to your life? Be specific—a good application will tell who, what, and when.

BIBLE STUDY Methods

5 P Method

PURPOSE

What is the overall purpose of this passage? Why is it important enough to be in the Bible?

PRIMARY VERSE

Which verse seems to contain the most important thought in the passage? Which one stands out to you? Write out the verse completely and the corresponding reference.

PROMISES

Make a list of any promises you find. (Sometimes you need to infer promises from a passage.)

PROBLEMS

If you find anything you don't understand—even if it's just a word—write it down as a question. Then ask someone for the answer or look it up yourself.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Think about what the passage means in your life. How does this change the way you view yourself? Others? What action should you take? Be specific—your application should tell who, what, and when.

BIBLE STUDY Methods

SPECK Method

SINS TO AVOID

Make a list of any sins—wrong actions, attitudes, or thoughts—mentioned in the scripture passage(s). These are the things to avoid in life.

PROMISES TO CLAIM

Make a list of the promises in this passage. Promises give us confidence when we doubt God or face difficult times. So take them to heart, and believe what they say.

EXAMPLES TO FOLLOW

What examples do you find in this passage? Is there a right way of thinking or acting described in the passage that you should take as an example for your life?

COMMANDS TO OBEY

Write out all the commands you find. If a passage encourages you to take a certain action, take it as a command and write it down.

KNOWLEDGE OF GOD TO APPLY

What does the passage tell you about God that you can apply to your daily life? God's character shines throughout the Bible as an example for us!

BIBLE STUDY Methods

Newspaper Method

WHO?

Make a list of all the major characters in the scripture passage(s).

WHAT?

What are the circumstances? What are the characters doing?

WHERE?

Where is the action taking place and why is that important?

WHEN?

What is significant about the timing of this scripture passage?

WHY?

Why did God think this specific passage was so important that He included it in His Word?

HOW?

How does this passage apply to your life? How are you going to live differently today because of what you read?

Reminder: Applications should tell who, what, and when.