

## Suggested Resources for Studying the Bible

- Study Bibles
  - These are great helps for background information, cross-references and other contextual clues.
  - Recommended: ESV Study Bible, NIV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible, Key Word Study Bible (Great for Greek and Hebrew understanding)
- Biblical Concordances
  - A concordance is an alphabetical listing of words or phrases found in the Bible and where terms occur throughout all 66 books.
  - These help to see what the Bible says about a certain word or idea (but remember: context is king!)
  - The most popular one out there is Strong's Concordance (but can find free online ones too)
- Bible Dictionaries
  - "Bible dictionaries are one of the most practical and useful theological reference books available. The combination of definitions and proper names for Biblical words with online verse reference, allows users to define and analyze Scripture. Discover the meaning of words and study them in context to the theological concepts of that specific verse or passage. Many word searches also include the original Greek and Hebrew word with meaning. Popular dictionaries of the Bible include Baker's Evangelical, Easton's, and Smiths – named after their well-known theological authors." From biblestudytools.com
  - Even an English dictionary can be important to understand what words mean.
- Bible Commentaries
  - Other studied men and women have put in a lot of work so we don't have to reinvent the wheel!
  - However, as mentioned before, don't rush to the commentaries. First, read the Bible for yourself! It's the difference of always being fed by someone else and learning to feed yourself!
- Blueletterbible.org
  - This is a great website that combines many of the above tools!
  - Next to each verse, click the "tools" button to find many resources. "Interlinear" lets you look at the Greek or Hebrew word and its definition (very helpful!). It will also show you other translations, cross-references, commentaries, dictionaries, maps and more!
  - Other good websites: biblegateway.com, biblestudytools.com and the YouVersion Bible app!