

# **BIBLE STUDY TIPS**

## **Tips for Studying God's Word (Personally):**

1. Read everyday. Even if you can't finish the day's reading, read what you can.
2. If you miss a day, just pick up on today's day. Don't try to catch up where you left off. If you have some extra time, go back and read what you missed.
3. Don't forget - Reading the Bible is not a to-do, it is a GIFT to unwrap everyday.
4. As you read each day, answer the following questions and journal your answers.

## **Tips for Studying God's Word (Corporately-with a small group):**

1. What from the text stuck out to you? What shone to you? (Listen to how others answer this)
2. Did these verses raise any questions as you read?
3. Where we see Jesus in these verses? How do these verses point to Christ? (Luke 24:44)
4. How does this text personally apply to me? Us? The church?
5. What from this text can I share with my family? My small group? The lost?
6. Why are these verses in the Bible?

## **Questions to ask when reading the Bible (How to understand what you read):**

### **(HEAR Method)**

- 1) Highlight
- 2) Explain
- 3) Apply
- 4) Respond

### **(Sword Method)**

- 1) POINT - What does this passage tell me about God?
- 2) HILT/GRIP - What does this passage tell me about man?
- 3) BLADE 1 - Are there promises to trust, commands to obey, or examples to follow?
- 4) BLADE 2 - Are there sins to avoid/any warnings?
- 5) GUARD/TANG - What will I do after reading this today? How do I repent and change?

### **(SOAP Method)**

- 1) Scripture
- 2) Observation
- 3) Application
- 4) Prayer

## BIBLE STUDY TIPS

The Bible is **ONE** book.

The overall theme of the Bible is God **redeeming** man.

The story of redemption in the Bible is:

- **Creation** - God created and sustains the world.
- **Fall** - The pinnacle of creation, man, sinned and negatively impacted all of creation.
- **Redemption** - God sent a way of rescue for man in the person of Jesus Christ.
- **Restoration** - God will one day make all things (heaven and earth) new.

### The Overall Structure of the Bible

1. **Preparation for the Gospel/Jesus** (Genesis – Malachi) - all the OT points to the coming of Jesus! God is **PREPARING** the world for Jesus to come and redeem man.
2. **Manifestation of the Gospel/Jesus** (Matthew – John) - Jesus' incarnation, life, ministry, death, resurrection and ascension.

Each Gospel writer is stating the preparation for the Gospel has come - they just say it in their own way/message.

- Luke's goal is history and chronology. **Luke 1:1 - he was not an eyewitness.**
  - John's goal is evangelism. - he orders his gospel around 7 major signs
  - Mark's goal is brevity and clarity. (just the facts ma'am)
  - Matthew's goal is proving that Jesus is the prophesied Messiah.
3. **Continuation of the Gospel/Jesus** (Acts) - Jesus ascends and God gives the church the Holy Spirit (the presence of God in every believer) and the gospel **CONTINUES** through multiplication and spread of the church (Acts 1:8)
  4. **Explanation of the Gospel/Jesus (Romans – Jude)** - as the church multiplies, false teachers start distorting the truth. God inspires Paul, Peter, James, and John to write letters to the churches **EXPLAINING** how to live like people who follow Jesus.
  5. **Consummation of the Gospel/Jesus (Revelation)** - God makes and fulfills His promise to return and make all things new.