

I Want to Study the Bible

**This Pamphlet Provided
Courtesy of:**

I Want to Study The Bible



Resources

Type	Examples
Poem	Song of Songs, Psalm 78, 104, 119
Song/Hymn	Song of Miriam (Exodus 15:1- 18), Song of Deborah (Judges 5), Psalm 19, 27
Story	Ruth, Esther
History	1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Nehemiah, Ezra
Parable	Luke 16
Allegory	Ezekiel 16
Doctrinal teaching	Matthew 5-7
Wisdom Literature	Proverbs, (this may overlap with Poems)
Prophetic Oracle	Isaiah 14:1-23
Vision report	Ezekiel 1 Daniel 7, 8
Prayer	Psalm 12 Daniel 9

Example Prayer for Bible Study

*Lord, take from me any thought habits
which will keep me from hearing. Make
me open to your voice and your voice
alone.*

*Lord, help me to accept your people as
my brothers and sisters in your kingdom
let me learn and grow from both their
weaknesses and their strengths.*

*Lord, I trust you to reveal yourself to
your people the way you know is best.
Let your will be done.*

*Lord, let me not only recognize but obey
your voice. Let my actions be
conformed to your will. Help me to love
my neighbor as myself.*

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Bibles with study notes

Oxford Study Bible (REB)
New Oxford Annotated Bible (NRSV)
Spirit Filled Life Bible
The NIV Study Bible (Zondervan)

Bible Atlases

Many study Bibles include good Bible
atlases, but a separate Bible Atlas or world
history atlas can be useful.

Oxford Bible Atlas
The Harper Atlas of World History

Bible Handbooks

The Cambridge Companion to the Bible
Eerdman's Handbook to the Bible

For further information see the
Pacesetters Bible School brochures
*What's in a Version and Bible Study
Tools.*

Place your church address here.

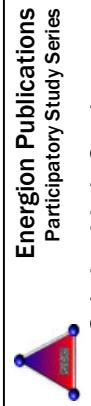
Energion Publications
P. O. Box 841
Gonzalez, FL 32560

Phone: (850) 968-1001
Web: <http://energion.com>
E-Mail: pubs@energion.com

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Energion Publications
Participatory Study Series

Scholarship in Service

How can I get more from my Bible reading?

The Spirit will teach you **everything**. — John 14:26

share with you to use in studying further scripture.

Example Passage 1 Kings 19:11-18

1. Begin your study with prayer.
2. Read the passage several times. Can you tell this story in your own words?
3. Read 1 Kings 17-19. Check a Bible Handbook or study Bible for the background of 1 Kings.
4. Consider how Elijah feels through this experience.
Consider what God is trying to accomplish by giving Elijah these experiences.
 - How did Elijah know the Lord was not in the wind, the earthquake or the fire?
 - Can the Lord appear in such violent events? (Use your concordance, looking up wind, fire, and earthquake.)
 - Does God respond to Elijah's complaint? (Only indirectly; he gives him a task.)
 - Is Elijah as much alone as he feels he is? (No, there are 7,000 more faithful people, v. 18.)
 - What other Bible characters have experienced something similar to this? (Daniel 3—the fiery furnace.)
 - What people in church history may have experienced something similar to this? (Any martyr or person who has suffered persecution.)
 - Have you experienced similar feelings?
 - Have you ever felt completely alone in your faith?

that makes you unclean, and I will remove your disgusting idols. I will take away your stubborn heart and give you a new heart and a desire to be faithful. You will have only pure thoughts, because I will put my Spirit in you and make you eager to obey my laws and teachings.
(Ezekiel 36:25-27)

Preparation

Gather Materials — have pen, paper, highlighters or other markers and all materials you will need for study available.

Conditions — Find a place where you can study. If you study well with music playing, put some on. If you prefer quiet, arrange for a quiet place.

Resources — Get a small, well-selected set of study materials. For suggestions see the back panel.

Prayer

Pray specifically for an open mind to understand, an open heart to receive, enabling grace for the actions you will need to take.

Claim these promises:

But if we confess our sins to God, he can always be trusted to forgive us and take our sins away. (1 John 1:9)

I will sprinkle you with clean water, and you will be clean and acceptable to me. I will wash away everything

Meditate on the passage. If you are having difficulty meditating, think about telling someone else about the passage, such as a friend in need of encouragement, someone who is unsaved, or a child. Think: What questions might they ask about this passage? You can formulate thought questions or fact questions. Fact questions are about what the author is actually saying. Thought questions may lead you to other revelations well beyond the intended statement of the passage.

You can use outlining at this stage, comparison to other scriptures, to writers in church history, or to current experience. Ask: What similar experience are we having today? Can this help me understand the passage. For example, if you have had a vision will that help you understand Ezekiel's vision in Ezekiel 1? Ask your friends about experiences they have had.

Some historical writers you might consult include Jerome, Aquinas, Augustine, Martin Luther, John Wesley, John Calvin, Charles Spurgeon and many, many others.

Share your Thoughts

Ask yourself how this has applied in your experience. Get to know the person you are sharing with. Share your experience and then the text. Always work from your own **personal** experience with God.

Meditate, Question, Research, Compare (Repeat as needed)

Store up the experiences your friends