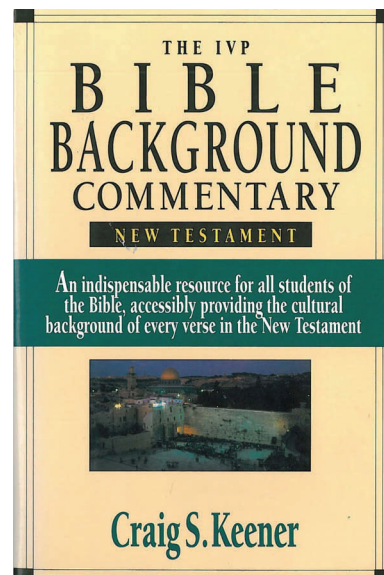
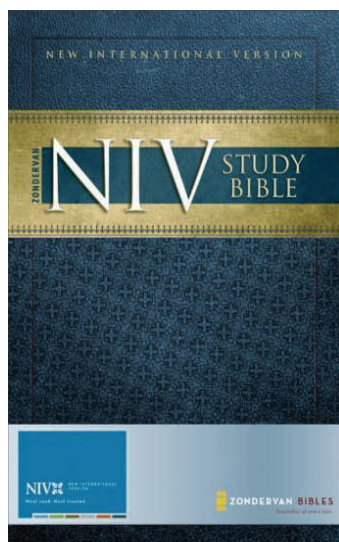
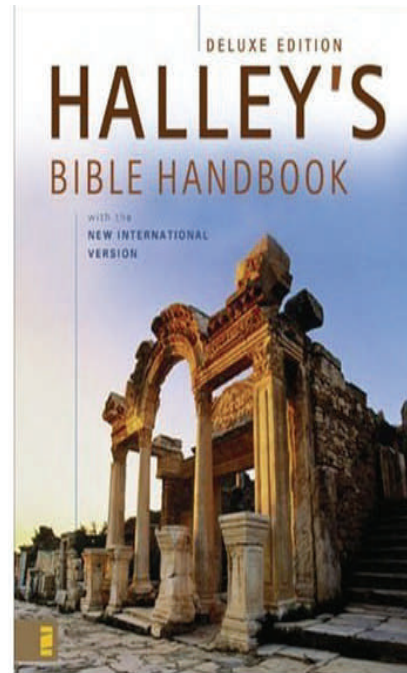
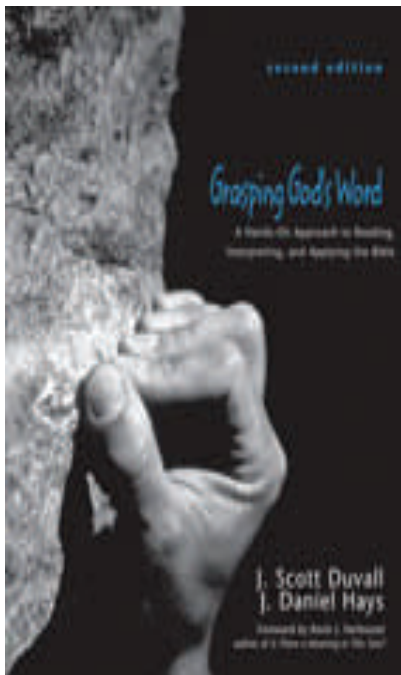


How To Study the Bible



How To Start Reading the Bible and Praying Daily

5 Minutes to Read

10 Minutes to Pray

Step 1— Commit to a Daily Time and Place.

We recommend the morning before you start your day—but for some, night or during the day might be best.. Unless you are reading with your marriage partner or family, find a quiet, secluded place. You will do this every work day, Monday through Friday (Matthew 6:6-13).

Step 2—Select a Good Translation.

A good translation has been developed by scholars from many denominations working together to create an accurate translation based upon the most recent and best manuscripts. There are three basic types of translations and listed below of the best known ones.

Literal Translations

*-technically correct,
but hard to follow*

Functional Equivalence Translation

*most key technical facts intact,
easy to follow and understand*

Paraphrase Translations

*-easy to follow, but not
technically accurate*

Interlinear Greek/English

English Standard

***New International/TNIV**

New Living Translation Living Bible

Revised Standard/NRSV

New American

New Century Version The Message

King James/NKJV

***We recommend the *New International Version Study Bible (NIV)*, but the *ESV* and *NRSV* are good too.**

Step 3—Commit to Read One Chapter of the New Testament a Day for 5 Minutes.

Read with a prayerful heart, seeking the Spirit's guidance. See the attached summary—if you read one chapter a day for each day of the work week (not weekends) you will read the New Testament in a year.

Step 4— Find One Verse From Each Chapter to Apply to Your Life.

Use a notebook and the follow the **S. O. A. P.** process (see sample attached):

- **S**cripture that stands out to you (S = Scripture).
- **O**bservation about what it means (O = Observation).
- **A**pplication to your life (A = Application).
- **P**ray (P = Prayer).

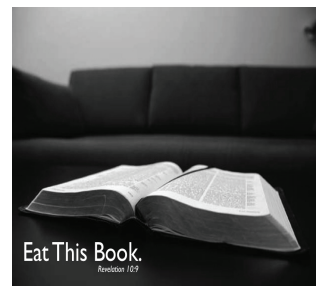
Step 5— Pray with a Simple Outline.

Pray simply and use the Lord's Prayer as an Outline. Without an outline or guide, our prayers become self-centered.

Reading and Prayer Reflection Guide

5 Minutes to Read

10 Minutes to Pray



Date _____

Scripture verse to apply _____

Observation _____

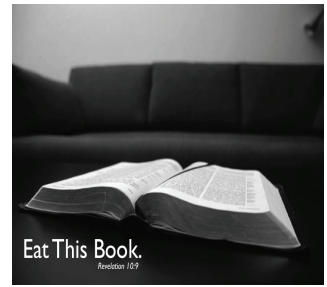
Application _____

Prayer _____

Sample Reading and Prayer Reflection Guide

5 Minutes to Read

10 Minutes to Pray



Date — January 1st

Scripture verse to apply— Matthew 1:19

Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

Observation—

Joseph was a righteous man because he wanted to do the right thing — follow God's law—but he also did not want to publicly embarrass Mary since she was pregnant, so Joseph initially thought, from another man.

Application—

Like Joseph, I want to be a righteous man who follows God's laws. I want to be the kind of person that is devout and earnest to obey, but I also want to be the kind of person who is gracious with those who do not follow or obey God. That combination—pursuing righteousness, but being a gracious, merciful person is my ideal.

Prayer—

God, as I pray the Lord's Prayer today, help me to be a man equally committed to your HOLINESS and your GRACE.

The Lord's Prayer—Matthew 6:9-13

1. "Our Father in heaven, HALLOWED be your name"

(Pray that God's Holiness would be recognized and honored)

*Help us/me to honor you and hold a healthy respect for you in the following ways . . .
Help the following to also honor you and hold a healthy respect of you . . .*

2. "Your kingdom come, YOUR WILL be done on earth as it is in heaven."

(Pray that God's Ways would be followed)

*We/I pray that Jesus would come quickly (1 Corinthians 16:22)
We/I pray that you would open our/my eyes and Help us/me to follow you and obey you in the following . . .
We/I pray that the following people would have their eyes opened, and come to obey your will (non Christians and others) . . .*

3. " GIVE US TODAY our daily bread."

(Pray to God for your daily needs)

*We/I ask the following for ourselves/myself . . .
We/I ask the following for . . .*

4. "FORGIVE our debts,"

(Pray that God will forgive specific sins in your life)

*We/I confess and ask your forgiveness for the following . . .
We/I confess and ask your forgiveness for the sins of our (group) . . .*

5. ". . .as we also have FORGIVEN debtors."

(Pray that God enables you to forgive those who have hurt you)

We/I hereby forgive the following people (and ask for your help) . . .

6. "And lead us not into TEMPTATION, but deliver us from the evil one."

(Pray that God will keep you from temptations and the devil)

Keep us/me away from the following temptations and other potential evil . . .

A.C.T.S. — Prayer Model

A— Adoration (Expressing adoration/affection To God)

Praise God. Read and recite out loud one of these psalms of praise, or another of your choosing (such as Psalm 8; 19; 23; 46; 95; 100; 148; Luke 1:46-55, 68-79; Ephesians 1:3-14; Revelation 5:12-13).

I worship you and praise you because you are

C-Confession (Confessing our sins to God)

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9)

I confess that I

I need your forgiveness for the sin of

Please give me your strength to forsake that sin or to make restitution by

Please give me strength to accept your forgiveness and the new life you give me

I am in Christ! I am a new creation!

The old has gone, the new has come! (2 Corinthians 5:17)

T-Thanksgiving (Thanking God)

“

Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

I praise you and I thank you for answered prayers

for spiritual blessings

for relational blessings

for material blessings

S— Supplication (Making requests of God and asking for help)

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God” (Philippians 4:6).

Here are my requests

52 Weeks Through the New Testament

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 5
2	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 7	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 8	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 9	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 10
3	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 11	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 12	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 13	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 14	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 15
4	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 16	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 4
5	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 5	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 7	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 8	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 9
6	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 10	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 11	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 12	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 13	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 14
7	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 15	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 16	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 17	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 18	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 19
8	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 20	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 21	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 22	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 23	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 24
9	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 25	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 26	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 27	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 28	<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 1
10	<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 5	<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 6
11	<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 7	<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 8	<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 9	<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 10	<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 11
12	<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 12	<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 13	<input type="checkbox"/> Galatians 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Galatians 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Galatians 3
13	<input type="checkbox"/> Galatians 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Galatians 5	<input type="checkbox"/> Galatians 6	<input type="checkbox"/> James 1	<input type="checkbox"/> James 2
14	<input type="checkbox"/> James 3	<input type="checkbox"/> James 4	<input type="checkbox"/> James 5	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 2
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16	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 8	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 9	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 10	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 11	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 12
17	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 13	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 14	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 15	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 16	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 17
18	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 18	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 19	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 20	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 21	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 22
19	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 23	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 24	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 25	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 26	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 27
20	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 28	<input type="checkbox"/> Romans 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Romans 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Romans 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Romans 4
21	<input type="checkbox"/> Romans 5	<input type="checkbox"/> Romans 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Romans 7	<input type="checkbox"/> Romans 8	<input type="checkbox"/> Romans 9
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23	<input type="checkbox"/> Romans 15	<input type="checkbox"/> Romans 16	<input type="checkbox"/> Ephesians 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Ephesians 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Ephesians 3
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29	<input type="checkbox"/> Luke 14	<input type="checkbox"/> Luke 15	<input type="checkbox"/> Luke 16	<input type="checkbox"/> Luke 17	<input type="checkbox"/> Luke 18
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36	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Corinthians 9	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Corinthians 10	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Corinthians 11	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Corinthians 12	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Corinthians 13
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50	<input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 8	<input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 9	<input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 10	<input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 11	<input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 12
51	<input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 13	<input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 14	<input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 15	<input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 16	<input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 17
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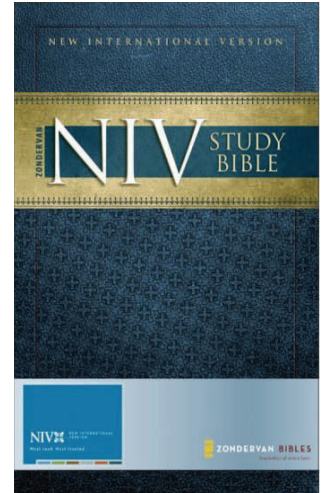
How to Develop Deeper Study of the Bible

1. Obtain a Study Bible and/or a Bible Background Supplement.

A good study Bible provides easy access to background notes and references to other passages which help you to understand what you are reading.

We recommend *The New International Version (NIV) Study Bible*, but English Standard Version (ESV) and New Revised Standard Versions (NRSV) study Bibles are also good.

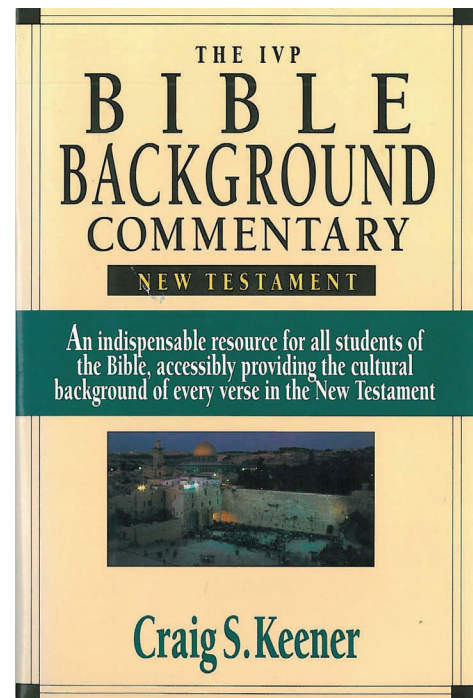
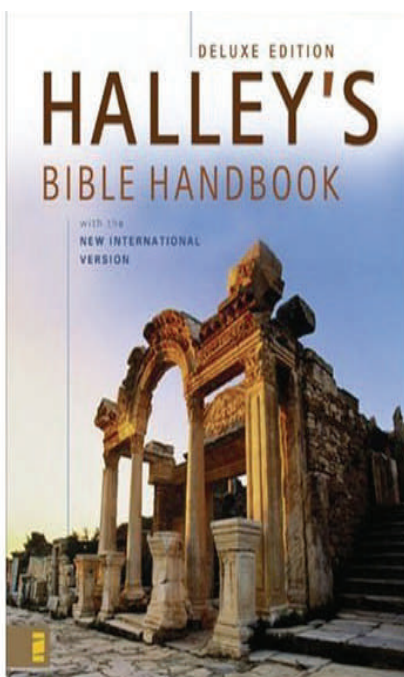
For a Bible Background Supplement (history, Archaeology, etc.), we recommend *The IVP Bible Background Commentary on the New Testament* or the often used *Halley's Bible Handbook* (Revised for the NIV).



2. Read the Entire Bible at Least Once.

It is important when first reading the Bible to first learn about Jesus and to grasp the Big Picture. So read the New Testament and then the Old Testament (harder to read).

3. As you read, use a Study Bible or a Bible Over-view Guide.



4. Study In-Depth Topics with Word Searches.

www.Biblegateway.com

<http://www.naves-topical-bible.com/>

NIV Concordance

Encyclopedias and Dictionaries

5. Then Master One Book of the Bible at a Time.

Learn about the literary genre of the book you are reading. We recommend *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*, by Fee and Stuart and the companion *How to Read the Bible Book by Book*, by Fee and Stuart.

Read the book from beginning to end, time after time after time, if you want master the book (this method is used in Life Transformation Groups [LTGs]).

***For more in-depth information on all these tools, we recommend *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*, by Fee and Stuart, or *Grasping God's Word*, by Duvall and Hayes**

