



Contemplative Bible Study Time

Many Christians take some time reading the Bible everyday. While it is very useful, just reading the Bible is not enough. You need to spend quality time with His Word. Without daily Contemplative time, your spiritual life can be seriously malnourished just as our body can be malnourished without proper food and water!

What is Contemplative Bible Study?

We experience this type of study through the acts of private devotion, and the intentional positioning of ourselves to hear God by concentrating on His Word and communing in His presence. An example of this is found in Luke 10:38-42.

What do you need?

Your Bible, a Journal, Colored Pens/Highlighters. Other suggestions: Bible Dictionary, Concordance, multiple versions of the Bible (i.e. NIV, AMP, NLT, NKJV, KJV, LB, MSG, etc).

What's the Process?

Start with Prayer

1. Spend time in Worship and Thanksgiving.
2. Spend some time in repentance and ask God for the forgiveness of your sins.
3. Ask the Holy Spirit for guidance as you read His Word.

Select a Passage

1. Select about 5-12 verses and read it continuously. Do not select too many verses at one time, however, your selection should represent as much of a completed thought as possible.
2. Read the passage slowly and carefully at least 2-3 times.
3. Identify what you feel are key words (i.e. words, names, or titles that are mentioned several times).
4. Use the HIS-GRACE™ Bible Study Method developed by Pastor Corey that will allow you to *Observe, Interpret and Apply*.

Conclude with Prayer

1. Spend time in Worship and Thanksgiving.
2. Accept God's forgiveness of your sins because of the atoning sacrifice of Jesus.
3. Ask the Holy Spirit for guidance and strength for the day.



HIS-GRACE™ Bible Study Method

H - History - What is the Historical Context of the Passage (When, By Whom, To Whom was the passage written/spoken)?

I - Issue - What Issue does the passage seem to be dealing with?

S - Sin - What Sin is being addressed?

G – God – What does the passage say about God (Father, Jesus, Holy Spirit)?

R – Reward – Is there a Reward, Promise, or Blessing mentioned in the passage?

A - Application - What can I learn from this passage and Apply to my life? How can I make this passage personal?

C –Command – Is there a Command I need to obey?

E – Evangelism – What can I tell others about this passage?

Example:

1 John 4:7-12 (NIV)

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. **8**Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. **9**This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. **10**This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. **11**Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. **12**No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

Keywords: Love – 13, God – 10, us – 6

H: History

The Apostle John that wrote the Gospel and Revelation wrote this passage in about A.D.90. He is addressing an early group of believers and is writing possibly from Ephesus.

I: Issue

There seems to be a lack of love present in the hearts of those being addressed. Therefore, John wants to express to them what authentic love is all about.

S: Sin

Sin can only be dealt with through Jesus' sacrifice.

Sin separates us from God.

G: God

God is love.

Love comes from God.

God showed His love by sending his Son, as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

The evidence of God living in us is if we love one another.

R: Reward

If we love one another, God lives in us, and His love is made complete in us.

We have a life through the Son (Jesus)!

Believers are the Beloved of God!

A: Application

I need to show God's love in more tangible ways.

I thank you God for loving me in spite of my failures and sins!

I thank you Jesus for personally sacrificing yourself for me!

C: Command

An informal command is that we should love one another.

E: Evangelism

I should tell others that we should love one another, as God loved us.

I should tell others about the importance of Brotherly love and Sacrificial love.