

RESOURCES

FOR STUDYING
THE BIBLE

STUDY METHODS

There are numerous different ways to study the Bible.

- *T.A.R.G.E.T. Method* (Time, Ask, Read, Gather, Engage, Thank) - *This method is available on our Resources Page.*
- *S.O.A.P Method* (Scripture, Observation, Application, Prayer)

STUDY BIBLES

Study Bibles include extra commentary and information for almost every verse. This gives you a great understanding of the original meaning, context, and application. Just search...

- *LIFE Application Study Bible* (NIV or NLT)
- *ESV Study Bible* (comes with online access)

COMMENTARIES

Commentaries are books written based on the different books of the Bible. They are like a Study Bible on steroids. They are very in depth on each verse.

- **Whole Set Commentaries** (include most or all books of the Bible)
 - *New American Commentary*
 - *Word Biblical Commentary*
- **Individual Commentaries** (single books written on individual books of the Bible)
 - *Varies depending on which Bible book you prefer*
 - *Caution: some commentaries are devotional in nature while others are more technical to the original languages.*
- **Whole Bible Commentaries** (single books written on the entire Bible)
 - *New Bible Commentary*
 - *How to Read the Bible Book by Book*

CONCORDANCE

Sort of like a dictionary of Biblical terms. This is a great way to search words and themes and then find the Biblical reference. Usually found in the back of the Bible.

FORMATTING

Pay attention to the formatting (full-justified, left justified, etc.). Especially in the New Testament, when a change in formatting occurs, this usually represents a change in style of writing or a quote from another portion of Scripture.

CROSS REFERENCES

Pay attention to the Cross Reference columns in your Bible. Unless your Bible is a compact or thin Bible, these cross-references should be present. They help you determine which verses are also talked about or referenced elsewhere in the Bible. This is most helpful when trying to understand a difficult passage of Scripture. The best rule is to allow the Bible to interpret itself (Scripture best interprets Scripture).

