

The Bible Passage You're Reading

Macro Message of The Bible - Redemption / Jesus / Gospel

What's the Message of the Bible Book You're Studying?

What's the Setting & Situation of those to Who the Book You're Studying was first Written?

What's Happening in the Chapters before and after the Bible Passage you're studying?

Read & Study the Bible Passage recording Observations and listening to the Holy Spirit as He guides you into the truth.

Look up cross references and word meanings to assist with understanding the Meaning of Passage.

From all the above study, observations, word meanings, etc make interpretation of purpose for & meaning of passage. Write into a statement or bullet points.

Use commentaries to supplement & confirm interpretation.

List applications to original readers and present day including how passage points us back to the Macro Message of the Bible.

Synthesize into an action of obedience.
Matt. 28:19

WARNING! Don't cheat the Spirit out of the joy He wants to give you from discovering the precious gems of truth from Scripture. **How?**

Often times, after we read a passage we go straight to find an application or go to an online resource to see what they say about the passage.

Those are good things, but only use those after you've spent time in the passage yourself. First, give the Spirit the time He deserves to guide you into the biblical truth as you read and study it yourself. Jesus said the Spirit will guide us into truth, so let's give him the time to do so. It brings Him joy and will bring you joy too!

RESOURCES:

- <https://www.blueletterbible.org>
- <https://www.preceptaustin.org>
- <https://www.desiringgod.org/scripture/with-messages>
- <https://bibleproject.com>
- <https://discoverybiblestudy.org/article/004/dbs>

In the form of an "I will" statement or prayer, write out an application from the meaning from the Bible passage. Next, pray. Talk with God about what you just read from the passage.

THE PERSONAL BIBLE READING FUNNEL

Sample Format for Personal Bible Reading & Study:

PRAY. Ask God to reveal wonderful things to you about Him from what you're about to read.

READ PASSAGE OF STUDY. Try reading it out loud. Try listening to it being read through a Bible app. Read / Listen to the passage a couple times. When reading look and listen for repeated words, characteristics of God, responses of people, promises given, etc.

AS YOU READ AND RE-READ THE PASSAGE, WORK YOUR WAY THROUGH THE FUNNEL. Often times its best to journal your observations, thoughts, discoveries, word meanings, listening to the Holy Spirit as He guides you.

QUESTIONS TO THINK & MEDITATE ON:

- **What stands out to you from what you just read? Describe in your own words what's happening or being said.**
- **What does this passage seem to teach you about people? About yourself?**
- **What can you learn about Jesus from what is said or happening in this passage?**
- **How does this point to God's heart to rescue you out of your sin and bring you deeper into relationship with Him?**
- **What's something from this passage you could put into practice until you read the Bible again? How could you phrase it into an "I will..." kind of statement? Write your "I will" on a piece of paper or journal as a way to remember throughout the day.**
- **Who could you share with what you learned today from your Bible reading?**

PRAY.

Talk with God about what you just read from the passage.