

Bible Study Plan

I. Goals Related To Knowing the Bible

- A. Study the books of the Bible in depth (see below)
- B. Read through the Bible in an overview style each year. There are 1,188 chapters in the whole Bible. Averaging reading during 325 of the 365 days in a year, this means reading 3.7 chapters a day. Either read the Bible straight through or list out all the books and one by one randomly read through each. Keep a journal as you read in an overview style and take notes on what the Lord teaches or speaks to you.

II. An Action Plan for In Depth Bible Study

- A. Pick your top 10 “most wanted to study” books. Decide which of these you think you can realistically study in depth during this year. Write them down in a list. Study one book at a time.
- B. Select the specific times during the week that you will dedicate to in depth study (this is in addition to the overview reading).
- C. How To Study A Book of the Bible:
 - 1. If possible, first read through the book as a whole in one sitting to catch the gist of the author’s plan, purpose and structure of the book
 - 2. Select two commentaries on the book to use during your study
 - 3. Invite the Holy Spirit to teach you in depth about His purposes and His ways through your study
 - 4. Begin to read the book through paragraph by paragraph.
 - 5. Keep a notebook to write down the chapter and verse numbers of each Biblical paragraph. Highlight the theme and spiritual principles which you see in that particular scripture. Write down insightful ideas from the commentaries.
 - 6. Some important overall considerations to keep in mind as you study paragraph by paragraph are:

- a. Historical Background
- b. What is the overall theme of the book and what single important message does it communicate which no other Biblical book does?
- c. What is the context of each section of the book?

7. Journal your personal thoughts, prayers and meditations as a result of the particular paragraphs studied and what you saw, grasped, heard from the Lord, etc.

III. Helpful Internet Resources

- A. www.soniclight.com (click on study aids)
- B. www.ccel.org (old commentaries)
- C. www.otgateway.com
- D. www.tyndale.cam.ac.uk/tyndale/links_biblical.htm#anchortools
- E. www.crosswalk.com
- F. www.christiansunite.com (click on Bible Study aids)