

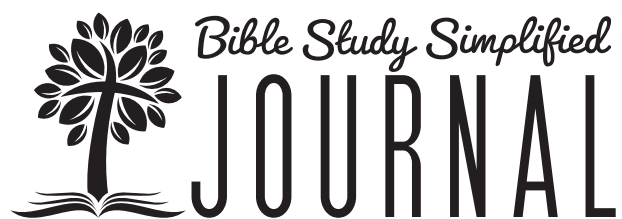


WALK
THRU
THE
BIBLE®

TAKE A WALK. CHANGE THE WORLD.

Bible Study Simplified
JOURNAL

A Step-by-Step Process for Deeper Bible Study



How to Use This Journal

This journal is designed for in-depth Bible study. While devotional-reading the Bible is good and strongly encouraged, this journal may frustrate you if you seek to use it as a devotional guide. The *Bible Study Simplified Journal* is designed to guide you through a process of in-depth Bible study of a specific passage of Scripture. This journal is best used by spending an extended period of time, even several days, studying a specific passage of the Bible.

The **Bible Study Simplified** method follows four basic steps:

- **READ.** We first begin by reading and understanding the broader context of the passage we are studying.
- **EXPLORE.** Next, we seek to explore the details of the passage we are studying to clearly understand what the passage is saying.
- **EXPLAIN.** After understanding the context and exploring the details of the passage, we can begin to explain the meaning of the passage.
- **APPLY.** Finally, good Bible study always ends with seeking to apply what we have learned to our own lives.

The *Bible Study Simplified Journal* guides you through these four steps and provides space to capture your notes from your study.



To get started, you may find it helpful to watch a free, 4-part instructional video teaching the *Bible Study Simplified* process that can be found at www.walkthru.org/simplified-journal

We've also provided a sample at the back of this book, and additional pages can be found at the link above.

The goal of studying the Bible is not to ask,
“What does this passage mean to me?” but rather,

“WHAT DOES GOD MEAN IN THIS PASSAGE?”

These are very different questions.

Faithful Bible study is always trying to understand
what God is saying in His Word.

BIBLE STUDY SIMPLIFIED

Date

Passage

READ

Learning to read
the Bible well

**Read the broader
context (for example,
the book or chapter)
of the passage you are
studying and answer
these questions:**

1 Who wrote the book?

2 When was the book
written?

3 To whom was the
book written?

4 What themes do you
notice as you read?

5 What type(s) of
literature is it?

6 Why was the book
written?

Write a single sentence that explains the meaning of the passage you are studying.



APPLY

Letting the Bible
change you

**Answer the following
questions about the
passage:**

1 What does God want
me to do?

2 What does God want
me to believe?

3 How does God want
me to relate to others?

4 What does God want
me to change?



BIBLE STUDY SIMPLIFIED STUDY SAMPLE

Date

Aug. 2024

Passage

Philippians 2:1-13

READ

Learning to read the Bible well

Read the broader context (for example, the book or chapter) of the passage you are studying and answer these questions:

1 Who wrote the book?

2 When was the book written?

3 To whom was the book written?

4 What themes do you notice as you read?

5 What type(s) of literature is it?

6 Why was the book written?

1. Who = Paul and Timothy (1:1)

- "I [Paul] hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon" (2:19)

- "It is no trouble for me to write the same things again" (3:1) ➡ second letter?

*See ch. 3 for Paul's background

(Hebrew of Hebrews ... persecutor of the church)

2. When? No date

- In prison (1:7, 13, 17, 30, 2:17) ➡ further study: when / where was Paul in prison?

3. To whom?

» Acts 16:11-40

(1) God's holy people at Philippi

• Paul in Philippi

(2) together with the overseers

• "Roman colony"

and deacons (at Philippi?)

• leading city of that district

4. Themes?

- Joy in suffering

- Encourage unity and community

- conduct yourself worthy of the gospel

5. What type? LETTER

6. Why?

Paul (and Timothy) wrote a letter to encourage and strengthen the believers in Philippi to live and die in light of Jesus' death.



EXPLORE

Discovering what
the Bible says

Explore Grammar and Vocabulary

Look up words you don't know, words that are unique or noteworthy, verb tense, prepositions, sentence structure, pronouns

Define:

- united with Christ—
- selfish ambition—
- vain conceit—
- nature—

IF

- encouragement from being united with Christ
- comfort from his love
- common sharing in the Spirit
- tenderness and compassion

THEN

⇒ Make my joy complete

- being like minded
- having same love
- being one in spirit
- doing nothing out of selfish ambition

Explore Specific Background Details

Look for people or places, cultural details, dates, and other clues as to what was happening in the lives of the author or original readers. What type of literature is the passage? Are there emotions expressed (joy, fear, concern, etc.)?

2:6-11 ➡ why does Paul shift to a different type of writing?
Is he quoting something else?
If so, what?

“My dear friends” (2:12)

* was there a specific issue or conflict Paul was addressing?

What is Emphasized in the Passage?

Pay attention to why the author uses any transition words: therefore, so that, that, in order that, but you, for, to, but. Is there any repetition? Can you observe the overall structure of the passage you are studying?

Therefore (2:1): Paul has instructed them to conduct themselves in a way worthy of the gospel; strive for the gospel; the Philippians will believe and suffer for the gospel

Therefore (2:12): connection between Jesus exaltation or death and working out our salvation

[Humility] ⇒ no selfish ambition, value others above yourself, not own interest, Jesus made himself nothing, obedient to death

Explore Anything Confusing or Difficult to Understand

• “under the earth” — who is this referring to?

• continue to work out your salvation ➡ ?
for
it is God who works





EXPLAIN

Understanding the meaning
of the Bible passage

Complete each
statement:

1 This passage teaches me
that God...

2 The author wrote this
in order to...

3 The hardest part of
understanding the
meaning of the
passage is...

4 This passage teaches me
about my relationship
with God...

5 This passage teaches me
about my relationship
with others...

1. This teaches me:

- God places a high value on humility because Jesus modeled it when He came to the earth as a servant and died on the cross.

- Jesus is supremely exalted and every knee will bow down worshipping Him

2. Problem ⇨ Conflict

Salvation ⇨ be like-minded

have same love

being one in spirit

Motivation ➔ think of others the way Jesus thought of us

... to correct any potential conflict in the church by encouraging oneness by appealing to Jesus.

3. ... to know what it means that we

"continue to work out our salvation,"

especially the use of the word salvation

4. —the depth of His love...

that Jesus would give up so much in order to die on the cross.

5. unity matters

Write a single sentence that explains the meaning of the passage you are studying.

Jesus' willingness to deny Himself for our salvation motivates us to pursue unity through humbly denying ourselves in the interest of others.



APPLY

Letting the Bible
change you

Answer the following
questions about the
passage:

- 1 What does God want me to do?
- 2 What does God want me to believe?
- 3 How does God want me to relate to others?
- 4 What does God want me to change?

1. *Have a mindset like Christ in my relationship with others*

reflect!

- Who?

- When do I not have a mindset like Christ?

- What would this look like at work?
at home? at church?

2. *- Unity should be highly valued and radically pursued*
- Jesus denied/gave up Himself to die for me


3 *- Value others above myself — this is hard!*

4. *[selfish ambition or vain conceit]*

↑ *Times this shows up in my life and how does this impact my relationships?*

Reflect on further





Bible Study Simplified JOURNAL

A Step-by-Step Process for Deeper Bible Study

W e as believers need more of God's Word than just what we get on Sunday or what we're taught by someone else in a small group study or Sunday school class. And at Walk Thru the Bible, we often hear questions like, "How do I actually study the Bible on my own? Where do I start?" and more.

The *Bible Study Simplified Journal* guides you through four thoughtful steps—Read, Explore, Explain, Apply—as well as the process for Bible study ... simplified.

At Walk Thru the Bible, we know that Bible engagement is the number one way that we grow in our relationship with God. Our prayer is that by showing people how to study God's Word, the Bible will change hearts, lives, and eternities.



Walk Thru the Bible
5550 Triangle Parkway
Suite 250
Peachtree Corners, GA
30092



walkthru.org

