

PREPARE:

A Seven Step Guide for Personal Bible Study

- **P**repare: "PRAY"

Before reading God's word, we should pray for His guidance and ask the Holy Spirit to speak to us through scripture: "God, show me what you want me to get out of your word today." Your bible study is not just for intellectual growth but relational depth with God. Prayer is how you talk with God. Enjoy this time you get to spend with Him.

"Then he opened their minds to understand these many Scriptures." - **Luke 24:45**

- **pR**epare: "READ"

We must not read to just read...or for more knowledge. Instead, we must read to be transformed and renewed.

"This same Good News that came to you is going out all over the world. It is changing lives everywhere, just as it changed yours that very first day you heard and understood the truth about God's great kindness to sinners." - **Colossians 1:6**

- **prE**pare: "EXAMINE"

When you read, examine the scripture! Examine what key phrases or words jump out at you and relate or apply to your life. Examine what is being shown or taught! Take time to read commentaries and or the study breakdown in your bible.

- **preP**are: "PONDER"

Stop and focus on God! Listen to Him! Ponder what the Holy Spirit is leading you to understand or see through this passage. Let yourself be quite.

"Study this Book of the Law continually. Meditate on it day and night so you may be sure to obey all that is written in it. Only then will you succeed." - **Joshua 1:8**

- **prepA**re: "ACCOUNT"

This is key! Get a journal and simply take **account** of what God is showing you. Write it out.

A verse that really sticks out, an area you need to work on, take notes of what you are learning, questions you want to get answered, etc. Write out prayers to God as you interact with Him during your quite time.

"I will write down all these things as a testimony of what the LORD will do..." - **Isaiah 8:16**

- **preparRe**: "REMEMBER"

There is so much good scripture that is totally worth memorizing.

Write down the verse you want to memorize in your journal and or on your mobile device so you can meditate on it later.

"I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you" - **Psalms 119:11**

- **preparE**: "ENGAGE"

We have an awesome responsibility to live out what we have come to know as truth. Put it into action!

Don't keep to yourself all the great things God is teaching you; share the encouragement you have received with others. Share the things God is showing you through His word, and by doing so, it will encourage others to seek out and value God's word.

"Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says." - **James 1:22**

