



HOW TO DO A BIBLE STUDY 5Ws & The H Method

What is a Bible study?

A time to come meet with God to learn, be blessed, and find answers.

Read Exodus 19 & 20

Part A | Preparing for a Bible Study

Step 1: You need a place to be alone with God.

Exodus 19:2 (ESV) "They set out...and they encamped in the wilderness...before the mountain."

Your place must be:

- Accessible
- Void of TV, radio, cd players, etc.
- A place of no distractions
- A quiet place

Step 2: You need to be ready.

Exodus 19: 10-15 (ESV)

- (10)“ ...consecrate”
- (10)“...Let them wash their clothes”
- (12)“...Set limits for the people”
- (15) *Abstain from sexual relations*

They had to be ready to meet with God. They had to alter their daily plans to meet with God. Getting ready means setting time aside for this meeting. **Many theologians suggest 30 minutes.** They were told to wash their clothes. We need to wash our inner minds and be at peace with God.

Step 3: Unsheathe the Sword of the Spirit.

Exodus 20:1 (ESV) "And God spoke all these words saying..."

For the first time in history, God is giving people His Word. **God spoke it aloud.** Try reading it aloud. It becomes more alive and understandable.

Make a pattern or an organized plan to study. Ponder what you read. Ask God (pray) to make it clear to you. Ask him what this verse or passage is saying.

EVIDENCE 4 FAITH

Step 4: Bring a pen or pencil.

Record what God tells you.

Exodus 34:27 (ESV) "And the Lord said to Moses, "Write these words, for in accordance with these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel.""

Write down what you learn from God as you go along. **You can't have a healthy relationship with God without listening to Him speak to you through His Word.**

There is no law saying that you must read a whole chapter in one sitting. Sometimes just studying a few verses or a paragraph yields more.

Part B | Doing the Study

Step 1: Find the Thesis or Topic Sentence.

Beware of taking a verse from anywhere in the Bible as you are likely to take it out of context. To find the context, find the thesis sentence of the original paragraph. This is usually the first sentence of the paragraph. You can find the original paragraph breaks using a New American Standard (NASB) Bible or an Interlinear Bible. Free Bibles are available online through sites like Bible Hub (<https://biblehub.com/>).

Step 2: Read & write down study questions using the 5Ws & the H

WHO

- Who is mentioned?
- Who is speaking?
- Who is listening?
- Who...?

WHAT

- What is happening?
- What has happened?
- What is the object being described?
- What has this got to do with me?
- What...?

WHEN

- When is this occurring?
- When did this happen?
- When will it take place?
- When...?

WHERE

- Where is the story located?
- Where is the person from?
- Where is the person going?
- Where is it geographically located?
- Where...?

WHY

- Why is this included?
- Why did this happen?
- Why this reaction?
- Why...?

HOW

- How did it happen?
- How did they get into this situation?
- How could this be avoided?
- How do I apply it to my life circumstance?
- How...?

EVIDENCE FAITH

Step 3: Research & answer your questions

You will need resources to research your questions. You can use:

- A concordance to cross reference scripture
 - a free version can be accessed at <https://strongskoncordance.org/>
- Different Bible translations and/or study Bibles
 - free Bible translations, including an interlinear Bible can be accessed at <https://biblehub.com/>
- Commentaries
 - borrow one from your church, library, or find free commentaries online at <https://biblehub.com/>
- Bible college textbooks and reference books
 - if your local Bible college has a library, take advantage of it!
 - You can also look up or ask about the books they use for their Bible courses. Many times, these can be purchased or borrowed on sites like Amazon for a low cost.
- History and archaeology books and sources to understand historical periods and cultures.
- A very good search engine
 - make sure to carefully vet websites!