

A Beginner's Guide

How to Study the Bible: Part 1

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Common Methods

a) Start at the _____

b) _____ **Dip Method**

The word of God is living and effective and sharper than any double-edged sword, penetrating as far as the separation of soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It is able to judge the ideas and thoughts of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

For we have great joy and consolation in thy love, because the bowels of the saints are refreshed by thee, brother. Wherefore, though I might be much bold in Christ to enjoin thee that which is convenient,

Philemon 7-8 *KJV*

Five Guidelines

1. Choose a translation you _____

a. Group 1: _____

NKJV, ESV, NASB

b. Group 2: Accuracy/ _____

← *HCSB* *NIV* *NLT* →
accuracy *meaning*

c. Group 3: _____

MSG, Passion

2. Choose a _____, a _____, and a _____

3. Seek to understand the _____

a) _____ wrote it?

b) To _____ was it written?

c) What is its _____?

*Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother:
To Philemon our dear friend and coworker, to Apphia our sister, to
Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church that meets in your home.*

Philemon 1-2

*I always thank my God when I mention you in my prayers, because I hear
of your love and faith toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints.*

Philemon 4-5

4. Read _____ and ask _____

a) What does this say about _____?

b) What does this say about _____?

c) What is God saying to _____?

5. Pray for God to _____ to me – and then
_____ whatever He shows me

*For this reason, although I have great boldness in Christ to command you
to do what is right, I appeal to you, instead, on the basis of love. I, Paul, as
an elderly man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus, appeal to you for
my son, Onesimus. I fathered him while I was in chains. Once he was
useless to you, but now he is useful both to you and to me.*

Philemon 8-11

** All scriptures from HCSB unless otherwise noted*