

HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE

PART 2

A deeper dive into the tools and practices that
bring Scripture to life.

Pastor Carolyn Mabone

Prayer & Posture

Before you open your Bible, open your heart. Study time is not just an academic exercise; it is a personal conversation with God.

Create Your Personal Prayer

Write a short, sincere prayer you return to each time you study. Ask God to quiet your mind and open your understanding.

Set the Atmosphere

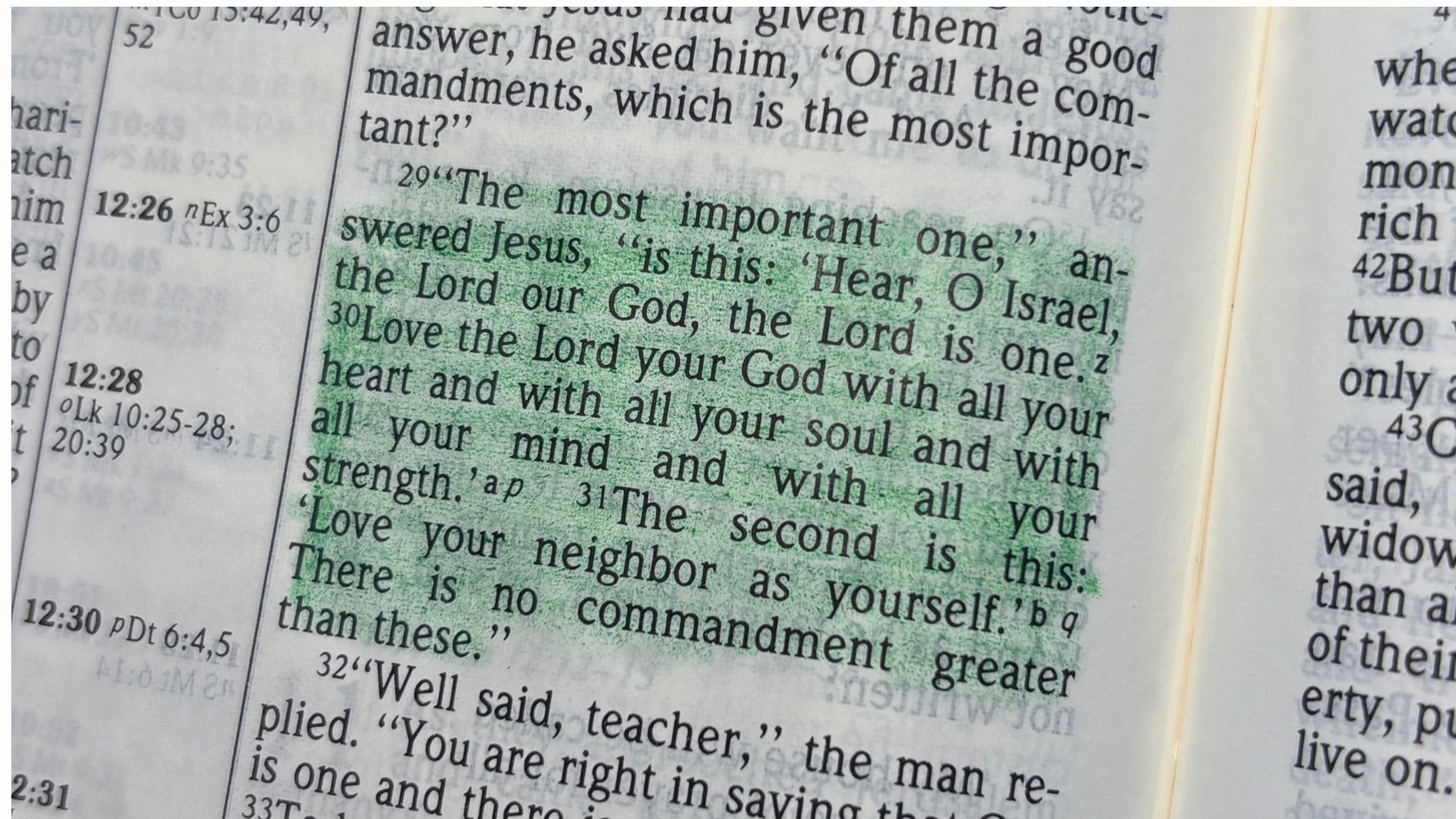
Find a quiet, consistent place. Silence distractions. Come with expectancy — God meets those who seek Him.

Psalm 119:11

I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.



Scripture: The Foundation



Every study session begins and ends with the Word. Scripture is the **living foundation**. It always teaches us something new about God, His character, and the life of Jesus.

Remember: "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness." — 2 Timothy 3:16

Come to the text with humility. Let Scripture speak before you draw conclusions.

Read & Reflect

Don't just read **ENGAGE**. Active reading transforms words on a page into revelation.



Mark Key Words

Underline or highlight words and phrases that stand out or feel significant.



Reflect on the Passage

Pause after reading. What is the overall message? What emotion does it carry?



Consider Context

Think about who wrote it, when it was written, and what the original audience was experiencing.

Observation: See It Through God's Lens

Ask questions of the text. Observation is the art of slowing down and noticing what God has placed in every verse.

Who

Who are the people involved? What roles do they play?

What

What are the main events or actions taking place?

Where

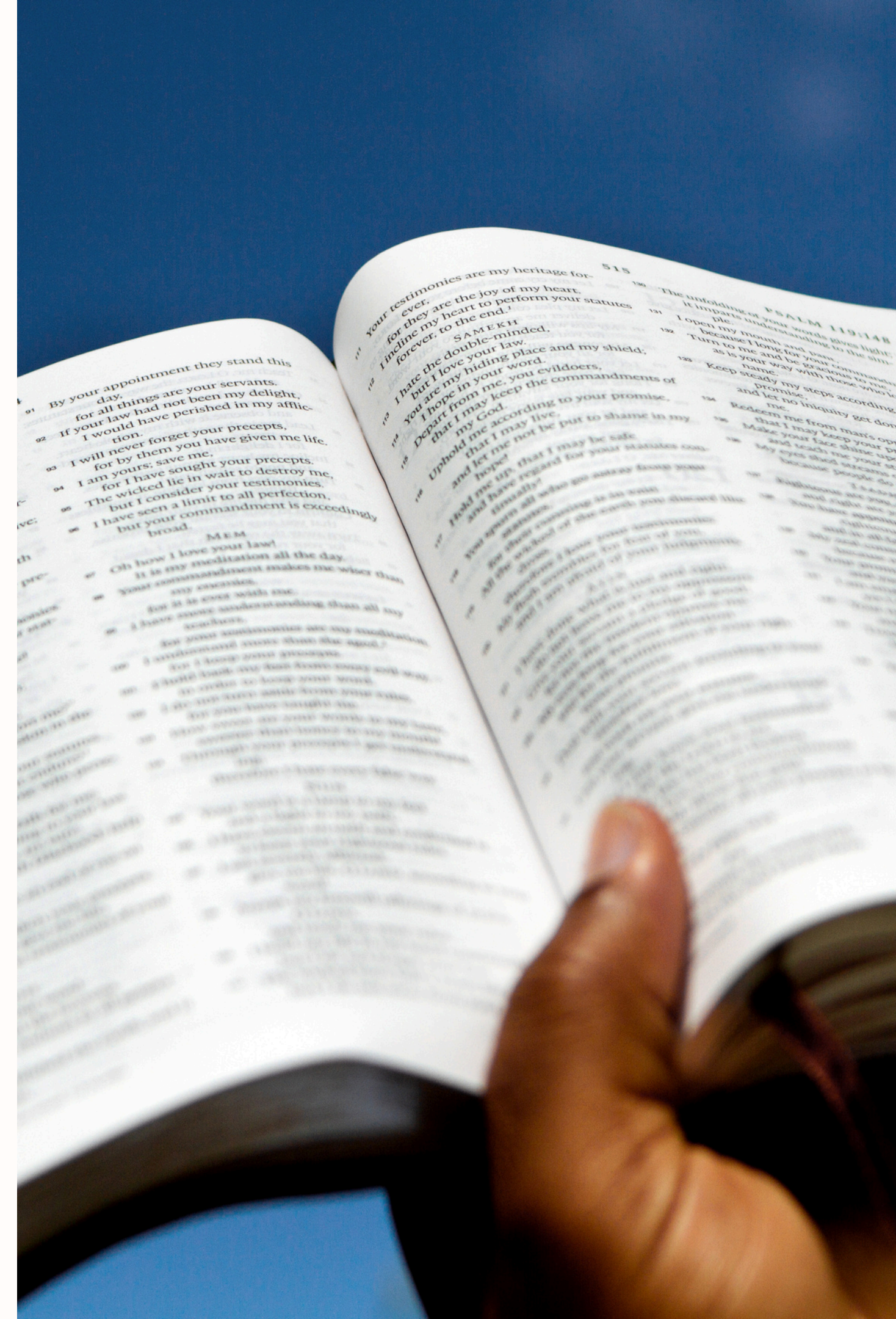
Where does this take place? What is the time period?

Why

Why did these events happen? What is the deeper purpose?

Psalm 119:105 NKJV

Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path





Application: Make It Personal

Scripture was not written *to* us, but it was written *for* us.

The goal of every study is transformation, not just information.

- **How does this passage apply to my life?**
Look for direct connections between the text and your current circumstances, relationships, or struggles.
- **What changes do I need to make?**
Be honest. Application requires courage. It may mean letting go of habits, attitudes, or patterns.
- **How can I grow closer to God?**
Every passage is an invitation to know Him more. Ask how this truth deepens your relationship with God.

John 15:5 NKJV I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit: for without Me you can do nothing.

Ezekiel 36:26a I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you

Prayer: Closing the Loop

You began with prayer.

Now end with prayer.

Closing prayer anchors everything you've studied into your spirit. It transforms head knowledge into heart transformation.



Seek Understanding

Ask God to help you grasp what He revealed in the passage.

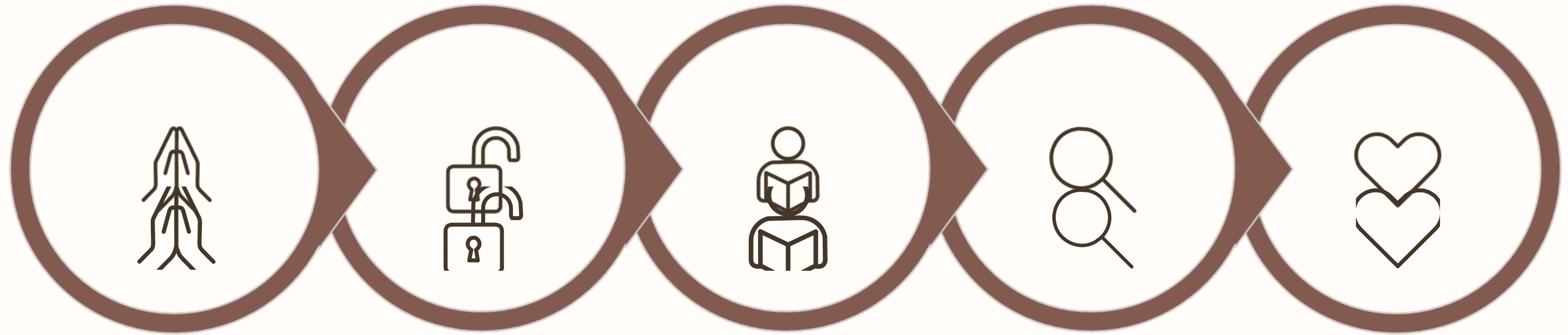
Express Gratitude

Thank Him for His Word, His presence, and what He taught you today.

Seek Direction

Ask for the courage and clarity to apply what you've learned.

The Complete Method at a Glance



Prayer

Scripture

Read

Observe

Apply

Each step builds on the last. Together, they create a rhythm of study that deepens your relationship with God and transforms how you engage with His Word every single day.

Jeremiah 29: 12-13 12Then you will call upon me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. 13 And you will see Me and find Me, when you search for me “with all your heart.”



Your Study Journey Starts Now

The most important step is the one you take today. Come as you are — with your questions, your doubts, and your hunger for truth.

Be Consistent

Even 15 minutes a day, done faithfully, will transform your understanding of Scripture over time.

Be Patient

God's Word unfolds over a lifetime. Every passage has layers — trust the process of discovery.

Be Expectant

God speaks through His Word. Show up ready to hear, and He will meet you there.

JOHN 15 “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes[a] so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

5 “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.