

## **My Bible Study Tool Bag**

### **#6 Practice, Practice, Practice**

#### **Introduction**

Application is a process of Life Change. The purpose of this study is to learn to feed yourself the Word of God (meat, not just milk-See I Cor. 3:2 and Heb. 5:11-12).

#### **Where do I begin?**

1. Decide to change:

The objective of this study is to help “you ask observational questions of the Biblical text, explain what a passage means and then describe practical ways to use what you have learned in everyday life.”

Example: I want to become a more patient and loving parent.

2. Come up with a plan:

It all starts with a commitment to change and a series of measurable/observable objectives.

Example: I am going to study the lives of parents in the OT and specific passages in the NT that relate to parenting. Each week, I will focus on one specific characteristic of a Godly patient, loving parent.

3. Follow through:

Get started. Write out the plan. Tell a friend what you are doing. Make the first move, take the first step.

- A. Establish your priorities. “Do I want to develop a Bible study program on a personal basis? If so, what price am I willing to pay?”
- B. Set a schedule.
- C. Develop some discipline.

#### **Potential Bible Reading Plans**

From Bible Study Tools.com (Use your computer/laptop)

1. Read thru the Bible (365 days)

\*Via Book Order (From Genesis to Revelation arranged in the order of the books of the Bible)

\*Via Chronological (In the order that the events happen in the Bible)

2. Chronological New Testament (92 days)  
Read the NT in the order that the events happened.
3. Daily Gospel (45 days)  
Focus on the life of Christ -read through the gospels.
4. Daily Wisdom (60 days)  
Read through Psalms, Proverbs and the Song of Solomon.
5. Old Testament/New Testament (365 days)  
Read one passage in each testament each day.
6. One Year Immersion Plan (365 days)  
You will read the OT once and the NT three times each year.

From YouVersion (Use the Bible App on your phone)

1. 5 Steps Reading Plan  
For those new to Bible reading, these brief selections will build consistency and confidence as you start your journey in God's Word.
2. Bible in 90 Days  
This intense, compressed reading effort will get you through the entire bible in just 3 months.
3. One Year Bible  
With less than 15 minutes of reading a day, you will read through the scriptures in one year.

From YouVersion for Kids (Bible App for Kids.com)

"YouVersion partnered with OneHope to develop the Bible App for Kids, designing it specifically to engage children with Bible stories on an age-appropriate level. The Bible App for Kids is a free app for Android, Apple, and Kindle devices, available in over 65 languages, and is already installed on over 10 million unique devices all over the world.

By introducing children to 41 of the "big" Bible stories, the Bible App for Kids helps them understand the overall story that the Bible is telling. "

# Sample Plans for the Summer

## **#1. I am new to Bible Study**

Read (or listen to) a specific reading plan. Choose one from Bible Study Tools or YouVersion.

Journal: (Use a simple notebook, a lovely journal book or an Illuminated Scripture Journal)

After you have read the passage:

1. Re-write the Key Thought
2. Capture the big idea.
3. Write out your personal application of those verses.

Memorize: Psalm 1 (6 verses)

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## **#2. I am Ready to Dig Deeper**

- A. Read SEVERAL TIMES each verse in one entire NT book (like Galatians, I Thessalonians, Titus or Joshua).
- B. Dig Deeper (from Navigator's materials)
  1. Underline or highlight key words or phrases in the Bible passage. Use a pen or highlighter to mark new discoveries from the text.
  2. Put it into your own words. Read the passage or verse slowly, then rewrite each phrase or sentence using your own words.
  3. Ask and answer some questions. Questions unlock new discoveries and meanings. Ask questions about the passage using these words: Who what, when where and how. Jot down your observations.
  4. Capture the big idea.
  5. Personalize the meaning. Respond as God speaks to you through the scriptures. Ask how could my life be different today as I respond to what I am reading?
- C. Record these notes in a notebook, on one of our forms given in this study or on the pages of the Illuminated Scriptural Journal. Keep those observations, the written-out interpretation and your applications handy for future studies.
- D. Memorize: Psalm 1 and Psalm 139:1-14 (20 verses)
- E. Set Aside 20 minutes a week to meditate on the scriptures you are reading and memorizing.

### **#3. I am Ready to be Challenged.**

- A. Read Devotionally through a selected reading plan.
- B. Additionally, choose to study either a specific additional book in the Bible or a major theme/topic in the scriptures.

#### Sample Books to Study

Book of Ruth  
Book of Ephesians  
Book of Judges  
Book of Philippians  
Book of Jonah  
The Gospel of Mark  
John 14-17

#### Sample Theme/Topic to Study

Life of Jacob  
The Tabernacle  
Messages to the 7 churches in Revelation  
Six days of creation  
Life of Daniel  
The Role of Women in the Church Today  
The Throne Room in Heaven (Rev. 4-7, Isa. 6, Ex. 24, Dan. 7, I Kings 22)

- C. Check Resources for additional input:
1. Use online Bible study sites like Bible Hub or The Blue Letter Bible or Precepts Austin.
  2. Consult a Bible dictionary, a Bible atlas, a Bible Handbook and/or a Bible commentary for additional insights.
- D. Record your notes in a notebook, on our study forms or on the pages of The Illuminated Scripture Journal.
- E. Memorize Psalm 1, Ps. 139:1-14, and Rom. 8:28-39 (31 verses)
- F. Set Aside 30 minutes a week to meditate on the scriptures you are reading and memorizing.

#### **Discussion Questions**

1. Share what tools you intend to add to your Bible Study Tool Bag. Be specific. Why did you choose that/those tools?
2. Share which tools seem “out of reach for you.” Can someone else help you with that?
3. Which Reading Plan best matches your situation right now? Why did you pick that one?
4. Which Summer Plan did you choose? Share with others why you made that choice?
5. Who can you call this summer to help keep you on track?