



Prince of Peace Church

How to Study the Word

This process of study is based on the following prayer from the Book of Common Prayer (2019). It was written for the Book of Common Prayer in the year 1549 and it is based on Romans 15:4. It is our hope that in your Community Groups that you will follow this historic practice of internalizing God's word.

*Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning:
Grant us so to **hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest** them, that by patience and the comfort of your holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Read & Hear: Appoint a reader, or take turns reading a few verses at a time. Do this several times (at least 2 or 3) in order to gain familiarity with the passage.

Mark: This is our time to make observations and ask questions.

The type of observations to ask and questions to ask include:

Who is the writer?

Who are the recipients?

What is the main idea?

What are the statements of truth?

What are the commands/expectations upon people?

What is said about God?

What is said about people?

Learn: This is our time to humbly submit to the learning that our brothers and sisters have already done. We do this by turning to our Pastors, Study Bibles, Commentaries, and other resources in the church. Together with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we search for the truth in the Scriptures. Spend this time looking through the recommended resources for answers to your questions, and further observations.

Inwardly Digest: This is our time to not just be hearers of the word, but also doers of the word (James 1:22). For each lesson, one or two topics will be provided for you to discuss for the purpose of applying the word to our daily lives.



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Daniel - Week 1: The One who is, who was, and is to come.

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Scriptures for Reference

Revelation 1:9-20; Daniel 9:17-19; Jeremiah 29:10-14; Isaiah 53:3-6; Matthew 27:46

Questions for Discussion

1. How might we be "exiled" in our own spiritual lives today? What does spiritual exile look like in a modern context? How do the experiences of the exiled Israelites reflect our own feelings of distance from God in times of crisis or suffering?
2. In Isaiah 53:3-6 and Matthew 27:46, we see Jesus experiencing deep suffering and separation. Why is it significant that Jesus, unlike anyone else, truly experienced separation from the Father? How does this impact our understanding of His sacrifice and His empathy towards our struggles?
3. What parallels can be drawn between the church's experience of persecution (as seen in Matthew 5:10-12 and Revelation 6:9-11) and the struggles faced by the exiled Israelites?
4. How should the promise of Jesus' return, as highlighted in Revelation 1:17-18 and 22:12, influence the church's response to persecution and suffering today?
5. What practical steps can we take to hold on to God's promises in the face of overwhelming fear or anxiety?
6. How can we encourage one another to stay faithful and hopeful in anticipation of God's promises being fulfilled, even when they seem delayed?



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Daniel - Week 2: Food, Fellowship, & Favor

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the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Scriptures for Reference

Daniel 1:1-21 & John 17:10-18

Questions for Discussion

1. Read the entirety of Daniel Chapter 1 to familiarize yourself with the story.
2. How did Daniel and his friends engage with Babylonian culture without compromising their faith? What can we learn from their example about influencing our own culture?
3. How does modern culture seek to "conquer" or reshape our values and beliefs, similar to how Babylon tried to conquer Daniel's heart? What are some specific examples (e.g., movies, social media, news)?
4. How can Christians live "in the world, but not of the world," as Jesus prayed in John 17:15-18, amidst a culture that often promotes values contrary to biblical principles?
5. What are some "King's portions" or cultural influences today that Christians might need to say "no" to? How can we discern what aligns or conflicts with our faith?
6. Reflect on a time when you faced a cultural or ideological challenge to your faith. How did you respond, and what did you learn from the experience?