

"Revere, See, Think, Wonder"

Generation Oriented Study Guide

Understanding how different generations can engage with Scripture using their natural learning preferences

Baby Boomers (Born 1946-1964)

"Wisdom comes from experience and careful observation"

Your Strengths in Biblical Study:

- Deep respect for Scripture and tradition
- Wealth of life experience to bring to the text
- Patience for thorough, methodical study
- Appreciation for authority and structure

How to Apply "Revere, See, Think, Wonder":

REVERE: Your natural reverence for Scripture is a gift. Use it as your foundation - this method deepens rather than threatens your respect for God's Word.

SEE: Use printed text, take written notes in margins. Read slowly and carefully. Trust your ability to notice details others might miss.

THINK: Draw on your decades of life experience. Ask: "How does this connect to what I've learned about people, relationships, suffering, joy?"

WONDER: Frame new insights as "additional layers" of understanding. God may be showing you something you weren't ready to see before.

Practical Tips:

- Keep a written journal of questions and observations
- Use study Bibles and concordances as companions, not authorities
- Share your questions with others - your wondering gives others permission
- Remember: Your experience is wisdom, not baggage

Generation X (Born 1965-1980)

"I need this to be real and practical for my actual life"

Your Strengths in Biblical Study:

- Healthy skepticism that asks tough questions
- Desire for authentic, practical application
- Independence in thinking and learning
- Ability to handle complexity and ambiguity

How to Apply "Revere, See, Think, Wonder":

REVERE: Your complicated relationship with institutional religion can actually be an asset. Bring your authentic questions - they honor God more than pretended certainty.

SEE: Give yourself space for independent observation. You don't need someone else telling you what to see - trust your ability to notice what matters. Then take it to a trusted mentor or spiritual director to affirm or challenge.

THINK: Focus on practical applications. Ask: "How does this actually work in real life? What would this look like in my marriage, my work, my parenting?"

WONDER: You're comfortable with "I don't know yet" - use that. Let questions sit without rushing to resolution.

Practical Tips:

- Study in chunks that fit your busy life
- Let passages address real-life struggles rather than be conceptual "good ideas"
- Don't feel pressured to share insights before you're ready
- Use your natural pragmatism to test ideas against reality

Millennials (Born 1981-1996)

"This has to connect to justice, authenticity, and community"

Your Strengths in Biblical Study:

- Desire for authentic, vulnerable engagement
- Natural collaborative learning style
- Visual and interactive processing
- Connection between faith and social justice

How to Apply "Revere, See, Think, Wonder":

REVERE: See reverence as compatible with authenticity. You can honor Scripture while bringing your whole self - questions, doubts, and passion for justice.

SEE: Use visual aids, colors, charts. Study with others when possible. Notice themes of justice, inclusion, and community care.

THINK: Connect passages to contemporary issues. Ask: "How does this speak to inequality, authenticity, mental health, community healing?"

WONDER: Let your discoveries connect to your values. How might this passage change how you engage with social issues or build community?

Practical Tips:

- Form small study groups with peers
- Use apps, visual tools, or digital resources
- Connect Bible study to service and social action
- Share insights on social platforms to process with community (positive community building, not negative attack)
- Don't separate "spiritual" truth from social justice

Generation Z (Born 1997-2012)

"This has to be authentic, inclusive, and speak to real issues I care about"

Your Strengths in Biblical Study:

- Comfort with diverse perspectives and interpretations
- Natural ability to see connections across different contexts
- Desire for authentic, unfiltered engagement
- Expectation that faith should address mental health, identity, and social justice

How to Apply "Revere, See, Think, Wonder":

REVERE: Your generation understands that reverence can coexist with questioning systems and traditions. Honor Scripture while bringing your authentic self - including struggles with anxiety, identity, and justice concerns.

SEE: Use whatever format works - digital, audio, visual, or traditional text. Notice themes of inclusion, mental health, identity, and God's heart for the marginalized.

THINK: Connect passages to issues you're passionate about. Ask: "How does this speak to mental health, LGBTQ+ inclusion, racial justice, economic inequality, climate care, or authentic identity?"

WONDER: Let your discoveries challenge assumptions. What if Scripture is more complex and beautiful than any single political or theological box?

Practical Tips:

- Study in short, intense sessions that fit your attention patterns
- Use multiple formats (text, audio, video, interactive apps)
- Connect Bible study to activism and advocacy
- Process insights through creative expression (art, music, writing, social media)
- Don't feel pressure to land where older generations expect - seek truth authentically
- Form study groups with diverse perspectives and backgrounds and generations (There is *much* to learn from those who have gone before you.)

Special Note for Gen Z:

Your generation's mental health awareness is a gift to biblical interpretation. Scripture speaks extensively about anxiety, depression, identity struggles, and finding hope in darkness. Your lived experience with these realities can unlock passages that previous generations missed. Don't minimize your insights - they matter.

Universal Reminders for All Generations:

The Goal is Transformation, Not Information

- We're not trying to master the Bible - we're letting it master us.

Questions are Worship

- When you ask honest questions of Scripture, you're treating it as living and active, not dead and static.

Community Enhances Individual Study

- Share your observations and questions across generational lines - everyone benefits from different perspectives.

Progress Over Perfection

- You're learning a new skill. Be patient with yourself and celebrate small discoveries.

"The Word of God is alive and active... it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." - Hebrews 4:12

Let it do its work in you through reverent curiosity.