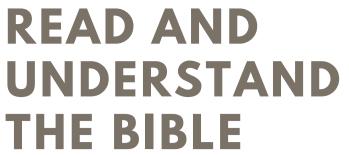


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A simple guide to understanding more of what you read.



With the recent virus protection policies put in place, many people are finding themselves at home with more time on their hands. Many Christians are reading the Bible more. Reading in new ways can make the Bible more exciting and our understanding more accurate. In this series, I will give some simple, straightforward principles you can put into practice right away.

ISSUE NO. 1 THREE WAYS TO READ THE BIBLE

Some like to read one verse a day and memorize it and meditate on it for devotions. Others people like to read entire books in one sitting. Still others like to take a passage and really dig in. I teach my students that all three are vital to the Christian life.

- 1. Memorizing and meditating on brief passages does help us focus on life application. The risk is, though, that we ignore the context in which the verse appears. Sometimes this can lead us to misunderstand or misapply, once we get down to specifics. So, we need an additional method.
- 2. Rapid reading of large chunks of Scripture helps us get the big picture of God's message. Of course if that is all we do, we do not pay adequate attention to the details .
- 3. Careful study of passages in context is vital to accurate understanding. The problem here is that many people do not know where to start or how to maximize their study. It takes time and care, and many do not invest the required time. This is where I spend the most time in teaching.

This series I will focus on things to look for so you can observe the text. Some of these you will already know. Some of them may be new to you. I hope you enjoy this series and that you benefit from the points laid out.