

## **10 Creative Bible Study Methods**

### **1. Choose a Bible version that's understandable and easy to read.**

Here's the flat out truth: *If we don't understand it, we won't read it.*

The Bible was originally written in Hebrew and Greek. One of the earliest translations to English was the King James Version (KJV) of the Bible, but today we have a variety of versions to choose from. Some translations focus on being more precise and are best for Bible study, while others focus on readability and are great for devotions.

If you're a beginner, I recommend the New International Version (NIV) Bible. Myself I use the New International Version Devotional Bible (NIV Devotional Bible) or for more a mature Christian the NIV study Bible. Most Pastor use the NIV Bible. To purchase a Bible over the internet we recommend [Christian Book. Com here](#).

Some of the other popular, easier-to-read translations include: New American Standard (NAS), New Living Translation (NLT), English Standard Version (ESV), New King James Version (NKJV).

You can also download a Bible app like [You Version](#) or read the Bible at [Biblegateway](#) online in several languages from around the world. This makes it possible for you to choose the best Bible version for you. These are great tools for beginners and veterans alike.

### **2. Find a quiet place where you can be alone with God.**

A quiet "*time*" is important too. The fewer distractions, the better. Some of you may have such busy lives that you need to fit it in whenever you can. This is totally normal! Make sure that whatever time you decide to read your Bible that you are in a place where you can focus and reflect on God's Word. If you miss some days, do not try to catch up. Simply pick up where you left off.

### **3. You don't have to start at the beginning.**

The Bible contains **66** separate books compiled into one book. The **39** books of the Old Testament are the story of God and his people before the coming of the Jesus.

The **27** books of the New Testament pick up the story beginning with the birth of Jesus. If you're new to the Bible, the best place to start is the *Gospel of John*. This book (the fourth book in the New Testament) is John's eyewitness account of the life of Jesus. As one of Jesus' closest disciples, John's account is both riveting and informative.

We highly recommend our [70 Bible Reading Plans](#) here designed to fit *individual* needs from 21 days to one year plans to be successful for those with busy schedules. Example:

[Plan 1](#) Beginners Bible Reading Plan – Gospel of John - 21 days 5 minutes a day [here](#).

[Plan 2](#). New Christians Reading Plan - Gospel of John – 21 days 15 to 20 minutes a day [more information here](#) or [sign up here](#) for 21 guides sent once a day by email for 21 days [here](#).

John's purpose in writing is to help us believe, making it the ideal place to start. *"These things were written to help you believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name"* ([John 20:31](#)).

[Plans 3 to 70 here](#) from New to the Bible, 2 Week Bible Reading Plans, Blended Reading Plans, Classic Reading Plans, New Christian, Children's & Family Reading Plans, and much more at [www.questionsgod.com/70-bible-reading-plans.htm](http://www.questionsgod.com/70-bible-reading-plans.htm).

#### **4. Pick a book of the Bible and work your way through it.**

If you're anything like me, you need a Bible reading plan or you'll waste precious minutes thumbing through the Bible, never quite landing. So pick one book of the Bible and read a little each day, one chapter, perhaps.

For example if you read one chapter of Gospel of John a day, (which will take no more than 5-10 minutes) you'll read John in its entirety in 21 days. Check out our two reading plans on Gospel of John [#1](#) and [#2](#) at [Bible Reading Plans here](#).

After reading Gospel of John, move on to the other gospels – [Matthew](#), [Mark](#) or [Luke](#). Next read [Philippians](#), [Ephesians](#) and [Colossians](#), which provide practical encouragement and instruction for living the Christian life.

Next [Romans](#) is jam-packed with essential doctrine. [Genesis](#) explains how everything began. [Psalms](#) is filled with heartfelt prayers that offer encouragement for every season of life.

Work your way through one book at a time, and you'll never find yourself fumbling for where to read again.

**IMPORTANT:** We have assorted free Bible Reading Plans for everyone [here](#). From 21, 31, 45, and 90 days long and many one year plans. Each plan is designed for the individual and your spiritual **success** in reading God's Word (The Bible).

## 5. Begin your time with prayer.

Pause before you open your Bible and ask God to speak to you. Remember, the Bible is God's Word; it is God's love letter written to His people, which includes **you**.

Ask God to help you understand His Word. Ask God to use His Word to teach you, to direct you and even to re-direct you, when necessary. Ask Him to use His Word to help you know Him and love Him.

[Jeremiah 29:13](#) says, "*You will seek me and find Me, if you seek Me with all your heart.*" God loves to reveal himself to those who seek Him.

## 6. Read a little every day.

Read Scripture, think about it, pray about it, and take notes on what you learn. Then review and read more. You'll be amazed how God will speak to you through His Word.

Getting God's Word into your life doesn't have to take long. *Start small*—five or 10 minutes is better than none. Sometimes less is more, especially when reading less means you'll actually remember more.

Choose a time and place that's convenient for you. Many people read their Bible first thing in the morning, choosing to spend time with God before daily distractions get in the way. But if mornings aren't your thing, don't sweat it.

***That*** you read God's Word is more important than *when* you read God's Word.

## 7. Write it down.

As you read the Bible ask two questions:

*What does this teach me about God?*

*What does this teach me about how I should live?*

No doubt, as you read you'll find one or two verses that seem to leap off the page. Maybe they speak to an issue you've been grappling with; maybe they answer a long held question; maybe they give you comfort or encouragement; maybe they provide an example to follow or avoid.

When a verse resonates with you, stop and write it down, word for word. Pause to let the message sink in because these words are **God's** words to **you**. This practice has cemented God's Word into my thoughts in countless ways.

Sometimes I keep the verse with me throughout the day when I am walking, driving,

cooking... Sometimes I ask God to help me remember it when I need it. Sometimes I **memorize it**. Be intentional about getting God's Word into your thoughts and you'll soon see your relationship with God thrive and your life change.

Stay focused on what God is saying through his Word that intersects with your everyday life. This is not about speculation, private interpretations or manipulating God's Word to say what you want it to say. This is about bringing Christ to your everyday life based on the truth of God's Word rightly interpreted.

**The more you expose yourself to the Bible, the more it will expose itself to you!**

*The Bible was never meant to merely inform us; the Bible was meant to **transform us**.*

## **8. Have a simple plan of action for how to study the Bible & where to begin.**

A simple Bible study method using the acronym **S.O.A.P.** is very easy to remember and follow to give you a start! It can be used with any daily Bible reading plan.



### **S.O.A.P.**

#### **S for Scripture**

Open your Bible to today's reading (according to whatever [plan](#) you are following [here](#)). Take time reading and allow God to speak to you. When you are done, look for a verse that particularly spoke to you that day, and write it in your journal.

#### **O for Observation**

What struck you and caught your attention in what you read?

What do you think God is saying to you in this scripture?

Ask the Holy Spirit to teach you and reveal Jesus to you. Paraphrase and write this scripture down in your own words.

#### **A for Application**

Personalize what you have read, by asking yourself how it applies to your life right now. Perhaps it is instruction, encouragement, revelation of a new promise, or corrections for a particular area of your life. Write how this scripture can apply to you today.

## **P for Prayer**

This can be as simple as asking God to help you use this scripture, or it may be a greater insight on what He may be revealing to you. Remember, prayer is a two way conversation, so be sure to listen to what God has to say! Now, write it out.

## **Another Simple Bible Reading Method You Can Use**

The following is a bible reading method . It is very simple: *Pray, Read, Think, Pray.*

### **9. Gather a few tools.**

Pencil or pen, paper or notebook, Bible. You may want to use a [Bible Commentary, Topical Bible's and Dictionaries here](#) to help you locate verses on a certain topic in which you're interested or Bible character. Others may include using a [preplanned Bible study](#) such as you find on our free site [here](#). They are designed for a successful Bible reading for you. [Online Bible study tools](#) can also help you learn how to study the Bible.



### **10. Take Action - Just Do It - Challenge Yourself!**

The Bible is the main source of our knowledge about God. It is His inspired and authoritative Word that has the power to build faith , hope and truth into our lives. The following free successful [70 Daily Bible Reading Programs](#) will help you to work through the Bible systematically so that the Word of God dwells **richly** in your life and produces **joy** in your heart. We have a plan for each individual situation from 5 minutes to 20 minutes a day, from 21 day plans, to one year plans. For those with busy schedules, to those that are new or consider themselves a Christian veteran, for those that are slow readers or fast readers, we have a plan for each individual here at [Bible Reading Plans here](#).

**Take Action - Just Do It - Challenge Yourself!**

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*Finding Answers to Life's Meaning, Life's Purpose, Life's Journey, Life's Questions!*