

Bible Study Helps

Some Valuable Tools for Bible Study

A. Bible(s)

- When studying God's Word, it's good to compare translations.
- Formal Equivalence (aka Word-for-Word): [KJV](#), [NKJV](#), [NASB](#), [ESV](#), [NET](#) & [HCSB](#)
- Dynamic Equivalence (aka Thought-for-Thought): [NIV](#), [NLT](#), & [CEV](#)

B. Commentaries

- [Dr. Thomas Constable's Expository Notes](#)—best free commentary
- The Bible Knowledge Commentary
- The Believer's Bible Commentary by William MacDonald

C. Lexicons

- A lexicon is essentially a dictionary which typically contains more information about words than a normal dictionary.
- New Testament: [Thayer's Greek Lexicon](#); [Vines Expository Dictionary of NT Words](#).
- Old Testament: [Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew Lexicon](#); [Vines Expository Dictionary of OT Words](#).
- Goodnews: You can access these free online.

D. Concordance

- A Bible concordance is a reference tool that lists words and phrases found in the Bible in alphabetical order. It helps you locate where these terms appear throughout the scriptures.
- Goodnews: These help you to search for words in the Bible. But you don't need these if you are using a Bible app or online, because they will search for words much faster than using a concordance.

E. Bible Websites

- Got Questions: [gotquestions.org](#).
- Dr. Constable's Notes: [soniclight.com](#).
- Blue Letter Bible: [blueletterbible.org](#).
- Bible Hub: [biblehub.com](#).
- Bible Gateway: [biblegateway.com](#).
- Bible.org: [bible.org](#).
- Precept Austin: [preceptaustin.org](#).

F. Free Bible Apps

- e-Sword (Windows, Android, Apple, iPad, iPhone): e-Sword is user friendly with more capabilities than you would expect in a free Bible study app (e-sword.net).
- BibleTime (Windows, Apple, Linux): A cross-platform Bible study tool that includes over 200 free Bible texts, commentaries, dictionaries, and books (bibletime.info).
- Bible Analyzer (Windows & Apple): Known for its extensive library of free add-on modules and user-friendly interface. It's available for Windows, Mac, and Linux (bibleanalyzer.com).
- The Word (Windows): A portable Bible program that will also work when installed on a USB stick! An impressive list of Bible Modules in all kinds of languages (theword.net).
- STEP Bible (online app): Offers a wide range of translations and tools for in-depth Bible study. It's available for Windows, Mac, and even mobile devices (stepbible.org).
- YouVersion (Android, iOS, online @ Bible.com): It is probably the most popular Bible app. However, it has some issues concerning data collection and privacy. It also has partnered with questionable teachers such as Joel Osteen, Bill Johnson (Bethel), Kenneth Copeland and others (bible.com).

A Bible Study Guide

Note: There are numerous guides for Bible study. This one is not inspired.

1. Pray for Understanding
2. Read the Verse in Context
3. Identify Key Words and Phrases
4. Consider the Historical and Cultural Background
5. Analyze the Literary Genre
6. Compare Translations
7. Use Cross-References
8. Consult Commentaries and Study Notes
9. Apply the Verse to Your Life

Think about how the verse applies to your life today. Ask questions like:

- Are there truths to be obeyed?
- Are there promises to be claimed?
- Are there examples to follow?
- Are there commands to observe?
- Are there sins to avoid or confess?
- Are there principles to apply?