

Student Study Guide

How to Study & Understand the Bible

1. What other names do you know for the Bible?

2. Check the names you know on the worksheet:

Holy Bible	Scriptures	Holy Scripture
God's Word	Holy Book	Old Testament
New Testament	Revelation	Word of God
Latin Scriptura	Law, Gospel	Holy Writings
Written Word of God		Revealed Word of God

3. Look at the textbook.
Look at the Contents page. Now look at all the pages and read the headings of the sections. Look at the Appendix, pages 42 and 43. Look at the pictures of the Books of the Bible. What do you think you will learn in this course? Write down your ideas and share them with you mentor.

Read pages 45-52 and look at the pictures.

4. Do you have a favorite translation or Bible version? Why?

5. What do you think is the opinion of many people about the Old Testament?

6. Study the Old Testament part of the graphic (pp. 42-43)

7. Study the New Testament part of the graphic (pp. 42-43)

8. Compare the KJV with a contemporary translation like NIV, God's Word, or RSV. Notice verse by verse of KJV and paragraph styles of newer translations.

9. In Exodus 3:2-4, an angel of God spoke to _____ from a _____ .

10. Who spoke to God in I Samuel 3:10?

11. In II Chronicles 32:21, " ...the Lord sent an angel, who annihilated (destroyed) all the in the camp of the Assyrian king..."

12. In II Peter 1:16 we read, "... _____were eyewitnesses of his (God's) majesty."

13. In Acts 9:6, Jesus told Paul to:

14. In Hebrews 1:1,2 we read, "In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the _____ at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by _____ ."
15. In II Timothy 3:15-17, we read, "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for _____, _____, _____ and _____ in righteousness, so the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."
16. That passage says that the Scriptures are able to make you _____ through faith in Jesus Christ.
17. In II Peter 1:21, we read, "...But men spoke from God as they were _____ the _____."
18. Read Acts 6:7. Write the meaning of the words, "So the word of God spread."
19. Decide which passages below should be interpreted literally (write "L"), or figuratively (write "F"), or poetically (write "P")

Acts 28:1-6
 John 6:41
 Psalm 22:14
 John 10:7
 John 13:4-5

20. Write the meaning for Jesus' symbolic words:
 a) "I am the gate for the sheep."(John 10:7)
- b) "You are the salt of the earth...You are the light of the world..." (Matthew 5:13-16)
21. A simile is a comparison of two things, using the word like or as. What similes does Jesus use in Matthew 13:44-46?
22. Read Mark 4:2-20. find the things in the parable that are compared to:
- a) the seed (verse 5)
- b) the seed falling on the path
- c) the seed on the rocky place
- d) the seed among the thorns
- e) the seed falling on good soil

25. Read Psalm 33:6 and Genesis 1:1. Explain how these verses work together to give us a clear image of God's creation.

26. Study the following prophecies of the Old Testament and their fulfillment in the New Testament. Write down what was fulfilled:

(Prophecy = Fulfillment)

Isaiah 7:14 = Matthew 1:22,23

_____ = _____

Isaiah 53:4 = Matthew 8:17

_____ = _____

Psalm 78:2 = Matthew 13:34,35

_____ = _____

Zechariah 11:12,13 = Matthew 27:9

_____ = _____

[Read Psalm 22. Explain what the Psalm is about using Principle 5]

27. Read the story about the snake and the people of Israel, in Numbers 21:4-9. Jesus explains, in John 3:14, that the Old Testament event was a symbol of His death on the cross. Read both, and write the similar points.

The Israel people's sickness

The Israelites' rebelling

The snake on the pole

The healing of the Israelites

28. The original languages of Scripture are:

a)

b)

c)

29. Most of the Old Testament was originally written in what language?

30. The New Testament was originally written in what language?

31. Read these three passages: Mark 1:16-18; Luke 10:1-3; and Matthew 28:19,20.

Find several similar points in these passages:

Find points where they are different:

Historical Setting Tool

32. Read Luke 1:1-4

In these verses, we learn that Luke is writing to _____
(verse 3).

Information was "handed down to us by those who from the first were
and servants of the word." (verse 2)

Luke _____ everything from the beginning. (verse 3)

33. Read Luke 2:1-7 and answer the following questions about the historical background of
Jesus' birth.

a) Who was ruler of the Roman world when Jesus was born?

b) In what way was a political decision by Rome involved in Jesus' birth?

c) Why did Joseph and Mary go to Bethlehem from Nazareth?

d) How was it possible for Mary to be engaged to Joseph and at the same time be
pregnant?

e) Why was Jesus born in a manger, instead of at the inn?

34. Look at the letter to the Galatians. Who was the author of this letter (Gal. 1:1)?

35. To whom was this letter addressed (Gal. 1:2)?

36. Who sent Paul (1:1)?

37. Why did Paul write this letter (1:6)?

The Tool of Culture

38. Paul was very aware of cultural differences in his outreach of the Gospel to others. Read I Corinthians 9:19-23. Summarize, in your own words Paul's strategy (way of operation) when he met persons from other cultures.
39. Read these verses and tell if they are Law: Curb, Mirror or Guide.
Psalm 119:105
Romans 2:14-15
Romans 3:20
Romans 7:7
1 Timothy 1:9)

Law and Gospel

40. The differences between the Law and the Gospel are great.
- The Law teaches what we are to do and not to do; the Gospel teaches us what God has done, and still does, for our salvation.
 - The Law shows us our sin and the anger of God; the Gospel shows us our Savior and the grace of God.
 - The Law must be preached to everyone, but especially to sinners who are not repenting; the Gospel must be preached to sinners who are sorry about their sins.

Check the following texts. For each one, write whether it refers to Law or Gospel. Write "L" for Law, and "G" for Gospel.

Deuteronomy 6:5-7
Matthew 22:39
Matthew 23:27,28
John 3:16
Acts 2:37-39
Romans 1:16
Romans 7:7
II Corinthians 4:6

Colossians 1:13-14
Ephesians 2:7-8
Romans 1:18
John 10:7-9
Mark 7:20-23
I Peter 2:1-2
Romans 5:1

41. Check the following texts. If the passage refers to a curb, write "C", or mirror, write "M", or guide, write "G". Remember that:

A curb helps to control violent outbursts of sin.

A mirror shows our sin clearly.

A guide leads us in Christian living.

Psalm 119:105
Romans 2:14,15
Romans 3:20
Romans 7:7
I Timothy 1:9

Justification

42. Read Romans 3:21-26. In your own words, tell how Paul answers this question: How can a righteous and fair God forgive sinners?
43. Read Romans 5:1-2. What blessings does God give to all whom He justifies?
44. Why is faith in Jesus Christ only necessary for salvation?
45. Compare Exodus 19:5,6 to I Peter 2:9. What important Bible theme do both passages give?
46. Read II Corinthians 5:17-19. What does this passage mean by "the old has gone, the new has come." (See II Corinthians 4:6, and Revelation 21:4,5.)
47. Compare the accounts of the resurrection of Jesus in Matthew 28:1-10, 16-17 and John 20:1-18. How are these two passages similar?

How are they different?

How do both accounts together give us a larger picture of the resurrection?

Intended Meaning

48. Read Habakkuk 1:6-11. This is the literal prophecy of the destruction of Judah by the Babylonians. How does Habakkuk describe the coming destruction?
49. Now read Psalm 139:13-16. The words "...you knit me together in my mother's womb" are figurative language. Explain the intended meaning of the passage:
50. Read Psalm 8:1-3. Write the meaning of the figurative language in verse 3 ("the work of your fingers"):
51. Read I Peter 1:10-12 and Isaiah 53:5-6. Write how these passages fit together.

Interpreting Poetry

52. Read Psalm 148:1. Explain how two lines are similar:

Explain how they are different:

53. Read Psalm 145:6. Explain how two lines are similar:

Explain how they are different:

54. Some Psalms are "messianic psalms," because they contain prophecy about Christ's coming in the future years. Look at Psalm 22:1-8. (See also Matthew 27:41-46.) How were these words fulfilled on the cross at calvary?
55. Read Proverbs 15:13. Find the first part and the second part. Write two things from the first part that are "opposite" of two things in the second part: _____ and _____ are opposites of _____ and _____.

Interpreting the Gospels

56. Luke 2 writes about Jesus as a baby, later as a 12-year-old boy and then as a 30-year-old man. Luke did not write about Jesus' life as a young man. Why do you think he did not write about that?
57. In John 20:30-31 John writes the reason for writing his Gospel. Write the purpose of his Gospel:
58. In John 6:39-40, Jesus tells us the will of the heavenly Father. Explain it:
59. Summarize Jesus' "Great Commission" (what He sends us to do) from Matthew 28:19, using just a few words:

Interpreting the Epistles

60. Read the following verses and explain Paul's purpose in each for writing to the Christians at Corinth:

I Corinthians 1:10

I Corinthians 11:1

I Corinthians 15:58

I Corinthians 16:13

II Corinthians 1:4

61. In Galatians, which verses contain the writer's introduction of himself and his greeting to the Christians of Galatia?

Which words in the conclusion of Jude (verses 24-25) strike you as deep and comforting?

62. Read Colossians 1:15-20. Write several sentences about Jesus, as our true God.
63. Read Isaiah 66:2. What good attitude toward the Scripture do we find in this verse?
64. Study the attitude of the Bereans, in Acts 17:11-12. Explain their attitude:
65. Read Deuteronomy 6:6-9. What do these words suggest to us about our attitude toward Scripture?
66. Suppose a person told you, "The Holy Spirit gives me the meaning of a Bible verse, without studying the Bible." What would you tell him/her?

Bible Study in Cultural/Situation Application – Final Exam

67. Read Matthew 6:25. A teenager may have a different application from a senior citizen. After reading this verse explain the difference:

68. Read II Corinthians 13:12. Paul tells Christians to "greet one another with a holy kiss." How may this passage be applied in the "culture" of a congregation today?
69. Three basic steps of Bible study are
- 1) Observation (what does the passage say?)
 - 2) Interpretation (what does the passage mean?)
 - 3) Application (what does the passage mean to me?)

Select one of the passages below. Use these steps in your study of this passage:

Psalm 23:4

Matthew 7:15-20

Psalm 23:1

Romans 8:37-39

What does the passage say? (in your own words)

What does this passage mean?

What does this passage mean to me?

70. Read Matthew 7:15-20. Answer the questions on page 39 in your text book.