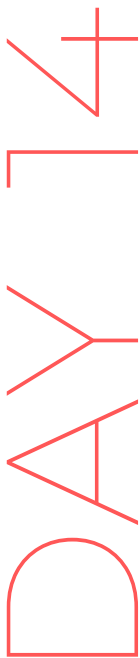


Bible Study Tools

We will teach you various methods to study the Bible for the next few days. We have already given you a couple of very simple methods, and anyone can do it. I have already given you enough to last a lifetime.



Our approach to God's Word is so important. We are spending time with God. The more we invest, the more we will get out of it. And the more our lives will change.

We have to make time for it. Prioritize it.

In these next few videos, we will teach you more Bible study methods but will require a few Bible study tools.

All jobs are more manageable if you have the right tools. Have you ever tried to do a job without the right tool? It's more challenging and often not as effective. So when it comes to Bible study, it helps to have the right tool



Here are a few tools that will help you:

Bible Concordance

01

Your first two questions might be, "What is a concordance?" and "Why do I need it?". A Bible concordance allows for a more in-depth study through the one or more verse references compiled for each word. Another function of a Bible concordance is to find a passage that you have read but cannot remember where it's located.

Cross References

02

What is a cross-reference? What else does the Bible say? Where else does this Bible talk about this? In the Gospels, there are several accounts of the same story.

This will help you get a fuller picture of the story. Some authors emphasize more of one part of the story than others.

Like the movie **VANTAGE POINT** (2008 Dennis Quaid, William Hurt), a story of an attempted assassination of the President.

The movie keeps playing the same events repeatedly, but each from a different vantage point of the five or six main characters. The different vantage points give us a better account of the entire story.

When we take time to do cross-references, we are gaining a different vantage point of a word, topic, or verse in the Bible. All contribute to the overall story.

The most famous cross-reference tool is the **Treasury of Scripture Knowledge**. It details more than 500,000 cross-references in the Bible.

Hopefully, everyone has someone they can consult for answers to tough questions. That is what a good commentary can do. Typically a Bible commentary is a systematic explanation and interpretation of Scripture. Often they give a chapter by chapter or verse by verse exposition and analysis of individual books. Background and context of the Scripture you are studying.

Now here is some good news. **You can find most of the tools I have mentioned so far in your Study Bible.** Again, this is why we recommend you invest in a Study Bible. A Study Bible has a concordance, commentary, and cross-references.



Various Translations of The Bible

04

We discussed the various translations of the Bible earlier in one of our episodes. It is sometimes helpful to have a variety of translations available when you study the Bible. Because there is value when studying the Bible by reading in various translations. The various translations add nuance, color, and depth to each verse and chapter. For example, sometimes, when I read a chapter in the Bible, I will read it in various translations.

Nearly everyone knows how to use a dictionary. However, a Bible dictionary can provide much more information than the standard Webster's Dictionary. To fully understand a word, one should consult several dictionaries and understand the names, subjects, places, backgrounds, and themes.

The site I recommend is www.studylight.org. You can read a verse. Like a concordance, you can find every verse with a particular word. It has many commentaries for each verse. It has a Bible dictionary with the original Greek and Hebrew words. It is also a place where you can read a verse or a chapter in various translations.

- After watching this video, take a few minutes, look over your Study Bible, and look at the cross-references in the middle of the pages. Practice checking out one verse and then looking up verses that are cross-referenced.
- Go to studylight.org and move around the site and check it out. Get used to how it looks and feels.

What is your one takeaway from this session?