

BIBLE STUDY RESOURCES



E-SWORD FREE BIBLE SOFTWARE

www.e-sword.net

This resource contains many free Bible versions and resources. Available for PC, IOS, Android.



BIBLE STUDY TOOLS

www.biblestudytools.com

This is on an online only resource.



BIBLE HUB

www.biblehub.com

This is on an online only resource.



LOCAL CHURCH DYNAMICS

www.localchurchdynamics.org

Our **RESOURCE PAGE** has links to two key digital libraries offered by Foursquare Missions Press:



- **The Paul Risser Memorial Library** which contains many study materials and aids.



- **The Mary Lou Canata Memorial Library** which contains many resources for children and youth.

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Kirk L. Zehnder

For Additional Copies:

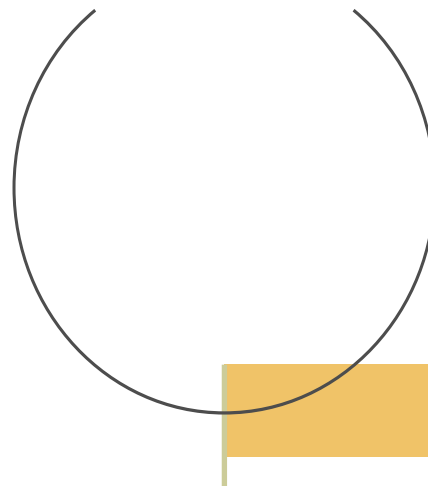
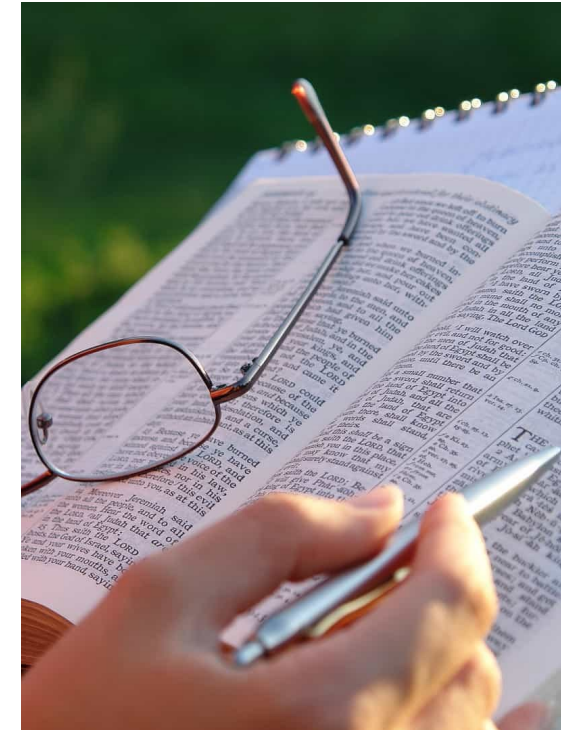
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Your Church Information Here

Keys to Effective Bible Study



KEY 1: Relationship

Give Priority to Your
DEVOTIONAL LIFE!

- Invite the **Holy Spirit** to be your teacher.
- Approach the Word of God with **prayer**.
- **Read** and **meditate** on the Bible to hear from God.
- **L.I.F.E. Bible Reading Method**. Download this guide at the website below - www.localchurchdynamics.org/outreach-pamphlets

KEY 2: Approach

Always read the Bible in CONTEXT!

- Who is the AUTHOR?
- When was it WRITTEN?
- What is the CULTURAL SETTING of the verses you are reading?
- What is the CONTEXTUAL SETTING? (What is happening before and after the text? It is always good to read at least one chapter before and after the text.)

KEY 3: Observation

As you read the Biblical Text,
ASK QUESTIONS Prayerfully!

- What is the BACKGROUND of the text that you discovered in **Key 2/Approach**?
- What did the author mean to EXPRESS to their **original audience**?
- What did the original audience UNDERSTAND from their cultural setting?
- What KEYWORDS stand out in the text? (Write them down, look them up in the dictionary, or use a Hebrew or Greek lexicon for deeper insights.)
- What is the MAINPOINT that naturally reveals itself as you ask these questions?

[NOTE: With tough verses remember this important principle - **“LET SCRIPTURE... INTERPRET SCRIPTURE!”** If the verse is unclear, are there other Bible verses that can clarify the meaning of the word or verse?]

KEY 4: Formation

Create an OUTLINE of the text
following its natural subpoints.

- This outline will follow the natural flow of the text as you ask questions and write down your observations.
- As you develop your outline, write down any subpoints that will help to develop and illustrate the main point of the text. (Keep your subpoints to a minimum. Usually 3-5 at the most).

- Write down and state the main point in your own words in a way that will be easy to understand by your target audience (children, youth, adults).
- As you prepare your final teaching outline you can state your main point at the **beginning** of the teaching, illustrate it **throughout** the outline, and summarize your closing with a **practical and personal application** of the main point.

“The main thing, is to keep the main thing, the main thing!” (Author unknown)

KEY 5: Application

How can I PRACTICALLY APPLY
this lesson in my relationship
with God and others.

- The interpretation of the text is what we naturally observe by allowing the Scriptures to speak for themselves through these inductive steps.
- The application should agree with the interpretation but it will be restated in practical and cultural terms that enable one to put the main point of the teaching into practice in their life.
- Additional applications can be gleaned from the text that do not flow directly from the interpretation of the text. However, these need to always be in harmony with the key interpretation.