

# Bible Study Method

1. Read through the passage at least twice. In the second reading, slow down and observe what is in the passage.
2. Identify who is involved and what is happening-where and when. How and why might also apply.
3. Note words that are repeated or words of contrast or words of cause and effect.
4. Paraphrase the passage.
5. Note any questions you have about the passage. See if there are answers within the passage. If this involves historical context or the meaning of words, other resources can be used.
6. Determine the overall theme.
7. Outline the passage-showing the movement of ideas and noting connectors or contrasts between sections-looking at words such as and, but, so, therefore, then, and so on.
8. Move to interpretation to see how the mechanics of the passage illuminate what the passage is about. Reword the theme if needed.
9. Finally, in light of all that you have seen in the passage, what does the passage mean? How does it apply to you? What thinking or actions do you need to change? What have you learned about yourself? What have you learned about God? What are the implications of this truth?

From Timothy Keller: His Spiritual and Intellectual Formation by Collin Hansen, P.33-34.

