

Study

How do I start studying the Bible?

Approaching the Bible can be intimidating. There are so many benefits to reading it, but what do you do when you encounter something you don't understand? Below are some of our favorite resources for studying the Bible, along with some tools to help you get started. Don't hesitate to contact to the Lazarus Church staff for additional help or direction!

Print Resources:

The Jesus Storybook Bible (great for adults and kids)

The Lutheran Study Bible (\$40 & up)

People's Bible Commentary (\$20/book)

Called by the Gospel (Intro to the New Testament, \$37)

Called to Be God's People (Intro to the Old Testament, \$39)

Digital Resources:

Blue Letter Bible (Bible Study website & app)

Lutheran Hour Ministries (Video Bible studies, devotions, & app)

Bible Project (Videos & app)

30 Minutes in the New Testament (Verse-by-verse Bible podcast)

40 Minutes in the Old Testament (Verse-by-verse Bible podcast)

Pray As You Go (Guided devotion app)

We Wonder Podcast (Devotional podcast designed for kids)

Study Questions* to get you started:

Begin by praying for God to help you understand the passage, then read and reflect on what God is saying to you through the passage with following questions:

- What does this tell you about God?
- What does this tell you about yourself and the world?
- What encourages you or leads you toward repentance?
- How will you live this out?

(*Discovery Bible Study format courtesy of MissionaryPathway.org)



Bible Study Worksheet

Begin with prayer, asking God to help you understand the passage. Next, read the passage quickly to get the gist of the message. Then read it again using the following questions for reflection, closing with prayer:*

What does this passage tell us about God? _____

What does this tell us about ourselves and the world? _____

What encourages us or leads us toward repentance? _____

How will we live this out? _____

Four Principles* for Biblical Interpretation

- 1. Scripture Interprets Scripture:** Which clear passages of Scripture help us understand the unclear passages in our reading today?)
- 2. Law & Gospel:** Which parts of the passage tell us what God has done or is continuing to do (*Gospel*)? Which parts tell us what we/people are supposed to do (*Law*)?
- 3. Hidden & Revealed God:** Which parts of the passage reveal what is needed for salvation? Which parts might be a hidden mystery for which only God knows the answer?
- 4. Two Kinds of Righteousness/Relationship:** Which parts of the passage teach us about the righteousness/right-relationship we have with God? Which parts encourage us or lead us to repent so that we/people can be in right-relationship and live rightly with other people?

*Questions/principles courtesy of [Pastor Trey Sansom of Project242Church.](#)

