

# Bible study skills

## Biblical hermeneutics and exegesis

- The science of interpretation and the explanation of the interpretation
- Hermeneutics is the methodology of interpretation to derive truth (2Peter 1:20)
- Exegesis is the explanation of interpreted Scripture: Nehemiah 8:8
- Exposition is the illustration and communication of interpreted Scripture
- Homiletics is the art of presenting Scripture and moral themes

## Purpose of Bible Study

- 2Timothy 2:15, Application and discernment of truth
- 2Timothy 3:15-17, Doctrine, reproof, correction, instruction
- Psalms 119:41-42, To give answers
- Psalm 119:103, For the joy of it

## Preparation for Good Bible Study

- 2Peter 1:20-21, God's inspired word
- Psalms 119:160, Personal application
- Psalms 119:18, Prayer for open eyes to behold wondrous things
- Psalms 119:33, Teachable spirit
- Psalms 119:101, Sanctify yourself and apply

## Types of Bible Study

### Analytical

Word study (includes topical on people, places, things)

Verse study

Survey (often and most useful when combined with analytical)

1. Chapter
2. Book
3. Division (such as Paul's letters, the Gospels)
4. Testaments
5. Canon

## Building your personal library

Tools for study make the difference between digging ditches with a spoon, shovel, or a backhoe. Begin with resources that aid you in your personal study of the Bible rather than tell you what the Bible is about. The goal of Bible study is to learn how to study and understand the Bible itself not learn about the Bible.

1. KJV study Bible (includes cross references, index, topical references, concordance. Check out the *Thompson Chain Reference Bible*)
2. Computer Bible program for KJV. Choose one that has modules for Greek and Hebrew versions, dictionaries and concordances. (Free *Online Bible*: <http://www.onlinebible.net/index.html>)
3. Interlinears: Give word for word English translation next to original text. George Berry's *Interlinear Greek-English New Testament. Hebrew \_\_\_\_\_??*
4. Dictionaries:
  - a. English Dictionaries: Webster's, Oxford, (Internet source: Oxford dictionary at <http://www.oed.com/public/welcome>, for Early English sources ([Early English Dictionaries](#)) [www.chass.utoronto.ca/english/emed/patterweb.html](http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/english/emed/patterweb.html), and [www.yourdictionary.com](http://www.yourdictionary.com).