

The SOAP Method

For Personal Bible Study

Here is an easy method that you can use to help you study the Bible. All you need is a pen, a notebook or paper, your Bible, and a little time.

We will use the acronym “SOAP” to help us remember the steps.

S – Scripture – What scripture will you focus on?

1. **Keep It** – Write out one verse or a passage that you want to concentrate on in your notebook or journal. This is important so that you can come back to this later.
2. **Know It** – Do your best to concentrate on a verse and commit it to memory. Ask God to reveal Himself to you as you study His Word.
3. **Key Words** – Write out or underline the “key words” in the passage that seem the most important to you.

O – Observation – Focus on the facts. This next step will help you write out what God may be teaching you based on the scripture.

1. **Summarize It** – Write out the scripture passage in your own words.
2. **Study It** – Ask the right questions. Write out the answers.
 - Who is speaking? Who is this passage focused on?
 - What is being covered? What is the main subject?
 - When is this happening? Is that important?
 - Where is this taking place? Is that important?
 - How will this, or how did this happen?
 - Why is this scripture important?
3. **See It** – See the big picture. What is the overall theme of this scripture passage (What is before it and after it.), and what are the main points?

A – Application – How can you apply this? Write out how you will let it change you.

1. **Learn It** – Write out what God has taught you through this scripture passage. What has He taught you about yourself through this passage?
2. **Live It** – Write out how you will have to change in order to live out this truth that God has shown you.
3. **Love It** – How does this passage or truth from God’s Word change how you: A. Love God B. Love Others C. Show Other’s God’s Love

P – Prayer – Respond to God in prayer, using the scripture as a guide.

Here is easy method to help you as you pray to God. This method is based off of the Lord’s Prayer or The Model Prayer given to us by Jesus in Matthew 6:9-13.

The acronym “**ACTS**” is an easy way to help us remember the steps.

A – Adoration – means “to worship, to praise”.
“Your name be honored as Holy” or “Hallowed be Your name”.

God, I praise you because...

C – Confession – means “to agree with”.
“...forgive us our debts...”

God, I confess that...

T – Thanksgiving – means “to thank Him for what He has done”.

God, I thank you for...

S – Supplication – or “intercession” – means “petitioning or bringing to God our requests for our own needs and the needs of others”.
“And do not bring us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”

God, I lift up...