

# HOW TO CONNECT DAILY WITH GOD THROUGH HIS WORD

**Getting Started:** Pick a book of the Bible to Study - the Gospel of Mark, Ephesians, 1 Timothy, James, and 1 Peter are great places to start. Any modern translation of the Bible is good: ESV, NET, NIV, CSB, NASB, etc. (Avoid King James and New King James as well as paraphrases like the Living Bible or the Message).

Each time you begin a new book of the Bible, use a study Bible (the ESV Study Bible is excellent) or online tools such as BibleWebApp, Bible Gateway, or Blue Letter Bible to understand context of the book (Author, Audience, Date, Occasion/Purpose, etc.). Write down in a journal some of these key facts. Start from the beginning of the book and pick a manageable section that you can study in one sitting (usually a paragraph or two) and continue daily until you study the entire book. You may need to fight the urge to keep reading. Generally, it is advised to stick to one paragraph/section. More may be too much.

**Pray:** Psalm 139:23-24 (search my heart, oh God), 1 John 1:9 (confess sin), and ask God for grace to give you understanding and wisdom as you seek the truth from His Word.

**Read:** Read the section you've selected all the way through twice.

**Title:** Give the section you've just read a title and write it down with the passage reference in your journal. Try to avoid using the supplied titles in your Bible. If you think that title fits really well, try and paraphrase it in your own words.

**Analysis:** In your journal, write down your analysis of the section.

- Observe: "*What do I see?*" Who is speaking? To whom are they speaking? What is being said?" (repeated words/phrases/ideas? Where & when? (setting))
- Interpret: "*What does it mean?*" What is the specific teaching instruction to the original audience? What is the meaning of the story? What does it say about God? Try to avoid using study Bible notes or online tools until you've done your own analysis. Think of them more as a safety net if you are confused.

**Theme:** The big picture. Write out the main idea from the section.

**Application:** "*What does this mean for me?*" How do I apply this to my life? Look for universal principles taught in the text. Use the following acrostic to help you. Not all of these many appear in a single section, but often they will. Remember this is simply a tool for application, not the application itself.

**S**-in to Avoid

**P**-romise to claim

**E**-xample to imitate

**C**-ommand to obey

**K**-nowledge of God to share

## DIGITAL BIBLE STUDY RESOURCES

### Constable's Notes

Constable's Notes, authored by Dr. Thomas L. Constable, provide commentary on all 66 books of the Bible in this PDF-based format. Dr. Constable taught at Dallas Theological Seminary for 45 years, and served as the Chairman of its Bible Exposition department for 13 years. He now spends most of his time upgrading these notes. These notes are intended to help you to understand the Bible better.

### Blue Letter Bible

Blue Letter Bible provides powerful tools for an in-depth study of God's Word through our free online reference library, with study tools that are grounded in the historical, conservative Christian faith.

### Got Questions

With over 9,600 answers to frequently asked Bible questions published online, approximately 85% of the questions we are asked already have answers available to you instantly. Got Questions? The Bible has answers. We'll help you find them.

### Precept Austin

Precept Austin is a comprehensive online resource for in-depth Bible study, offering verse-by-verse commentaries, sermon notes, historical insights, and study tools from trusted theological sources. It is ideal for those looking to dig deeper into Scripture with scholarly and devotional materials.

### The Gospel Coalition

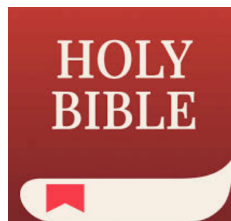
The Gospel Coalition supports the church by providing resources that are trusted and timely, winsome and wise, and centered on the gospel of Jesus Christ.

## RESOURCES IN YOUR APP STORE



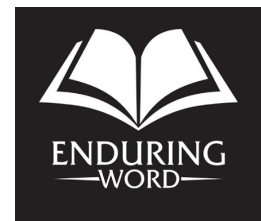
### Literal Word Bible

Literal Word exists to promote the word of God and not much else. No ads. No articles. No distractions. Simply the Word. We believe that the Bible contains the most important information that anyone could ever come across and that accessing it should be as easy as possible.



### YouVersion

The YouVersion Bible App is a free, feature-rich mobile app that provides access to multiple Bible translations, reading plans, devotionals, and audio Bibles. With a user-friendly interface and community features, it allows individuals to engage with Scripture

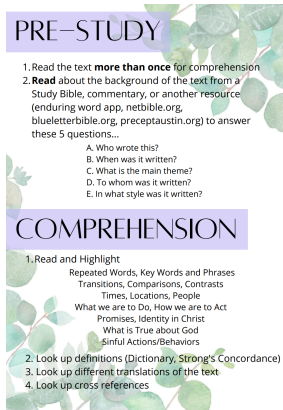


### ENDURING WORD

Enduring Word exists to promote the work of Christian discipleship and evangelism worldwide, mainly through the publication and dissemination of the Bible teaching work of David Guzik and likeminded people.

## PRINTABLES

[More design options of the Groundwork Bible Study card are available here.](#)



**PRE-STUDY**

1. Read the text **more than once** for comprehension
2. **Read** about the background of the text from a Study Bible, commentary, or another resource (enduring word app, netbible.org, blueletterbible.org, preceptaustin.org) to answer these 5 questions...
  - A. Who wrote this?
  - B. When was it written?
  - C. What is the main theme?
  - D. To whom was it written?
  - E. In what style was it written?

**COMPREHENSION**

1. **Read and Highlight**
  - Repeated Words, Key Words and Phrases
  - Transitions, Comparisons, Contrasts
  - Times, Locations, People
  - What we are to Do, How we are to Act
  - Promises, Identity in Christ
  - What is True about God
  - Sinful Actions/Behaviors
2. Look up definitions (Dictionary, Strong's Concordance)
3. Look up different translations of the text
4. Look up cross references



**INTERPRETATION**

1. What would the original hearers have thought?
2. How does the text fit within the greater story of the Bible? (Creation, Fall, Redemption, Restoration)
3. Paraphrase the text
4. Look up commentaries

**APPLICATION**

1. What does the text say about the characteristics of God?
2. What does the text say about sin and the need for a Savior?
3. How does this transform what I love, worship, and value most?
4. How will this change the way I respond to God and others?
5. Is the Holy Spirit bringing to mind specific people, circumstances, or sins for prayer, repentance, or reconciliation?

Knowing that God is \_\_\_\_\_, therefore I \_\_\_\_\_ shows me that I am \_\_\_\_\_.

## SCRIPTURE JOURNALS



Scripture Journals are a great way to take notes alongside a passage of Scripture. The Journals are available at [Crossway.org](#), [Christianbook.com](#), or [amazon.com](#).