

FOLLOWING JESUS' PATHWAY STUDY

DEVOTIONAL BIBLE STUDY FORM

Why we study the Bible?

The Bible is divine revelation. God's own word to us. It reveals who God is, who we are and why we are here. Through Bible study we gain insights into God, human nature, and creation. Studying Scripture can equip, guide, and reveal how to live in life-giving ways that deepen our friendship with God and others. Both Old and New Testaments encourage regular study, meditation, contemplation, and memorization of God's word. The benefits of Bible study are directly related to how open, attentive and obedient we are to what we read.

Jesus exemplified the love of God's Word in every area of his life. He used Scripture to answer those who tested him, resist temptation, find guidance, encourage his heart, comfort others, explain his actions, and ultimately face his own death. (Adele Ahlberg Calhoun, *Spiritual Disciplines Handbook: Practices that Transform Us*, IVP Books, Downers Grove, IL, 2015, p.185.)

Using the Bible Study Form during a devotional:

Date – Write the date of the devotional

Verses – Write down the verses you are studying today

Paraphrase – Write out a paraphrased version of the verses. You can use another translation, but do your best to put the verse into your own words.

Meditation/Reflection – After spending time reflecting upon the verse begin to write out thoughts which are coming to mind when you meditate on the verses.

- **Visualize** – put yourself in the scene. What are the sights, smells, sounds, and touches you would be experiencing in this scene? What are the characters doing, feeling, and attempting in you put yourself in their shoes?
- **Emphasize Words** – Highlight words which stand out to you in this midst of this passage. Read through the verses several times highlighting a different word each time you read the passage.
- **Personalize** – If possible, insert your own name into different parts of the passage.

Application – Write out a specific application in your own life through the specific passage.

- **Personal** – Write it out in the first person (I, me, my and mine throughout).
- **Practical** – Ensure this is something you can actually accomplish. Be as specific as possible in planning out a course of action you intend to take.
- **Possible** – Make sure this application is something you know you can accomplish.
- **Provable** – Set up some sort of follow-up to ensure you succeed. How will you prove that you accomplished this specific application?

Memorization – write out at least one of the verses you intend to commit to memory.

FOLLOWING JESUS'
PATHWAY
STUDY

DATE:

VERSES:

PRAYER

PARAPHRASE

MEDITATION/REFLECTION

APPLICATION

MEMORIZATION

(Rick Warren, Bible Study Methods: 12 Ways You Can Unlock God's Word, Zondervan Academic Downers Grand Rapids, MI, 2006, p.37-47.)

OHBEJOYFULCHURCH.ORG/PATH

