



Week 3 Handout - Bible Study Resources

You can find a variety of Bibles at One Mind Books in our lobby near the Main Entrance. You can shop for Bibles and other books on amazon.com and christianbook.com.

Two sites that offer reliable doctrinal books are collegepress.com and bookstore.thecra.org

Study Bible – A book that, in addition to God’s Word, has notes to help the reader understand difficult passages, who wrote each book, when it was written, various things going on at the time, etc. A good Study Bible may include the following resources below in abbreviated form, but these are also available as full books. These are often available as e-books (Kindle) as well.

Concordance – This will tell you where a word or name is used in the Bible, and give you the chapter and verse. You can purchase a complete (“exhaustive”) concordance. It also assigns a number to each word, whether Greek or Hebrew, allowing you to find out the meaning of the word in that language. It will list every time the word is listed in that Bible.

Bible Dictionary – A list of words, and names, with explanations of each to make understanding of Biblical words easier.

Charts and Graphs – These books give you some maps, or charts and graphs that allow you to help understand the times a little better.

Book Introductions – Use the book introductions to help you understand historical settings. It will list key events of each book and the date when they occurred. It will also give you an overview of the book.

Commentaries – Commentaries are one person’s (usually a well-known theologian, or group of theologians) research, explanations, and views on a particular Bible book. Remember, these only give you one person’s opinion of what that text says, and will have a theological slant based on the author or authors’ doctrinal views.

Halley’s Bible Handbook – A classic resource that’s the bestselling handbook of all time. It offers several helps in understanding the cultural, religious, and geographic settings of the Bible. It features maps, photos, illustrations, and brief overviews of each Bible book.

Nave’s Topical Bible – A topical Bible introduces the reader to each book of the Bible and surveys its contents in depth. Like a Bible dictionary, this topical Bible is an alphabetically organized presentation of the biblical and extra-biblical information on the Bible people, places, events, and objects.

The Internet & Apps – There are many tools online for studying the Bible also. Check out websites and their related apps:

- YouVersion.com
- BibleGateway.com
- Biblehub.com
- BlueLetterBible.org

Gotquestions.org – this site is loaded with great answers to questions on virtually any Bible topic you can think of. But we certainly don’t endorse every answer that is given.

A couple of sites with great content on video:

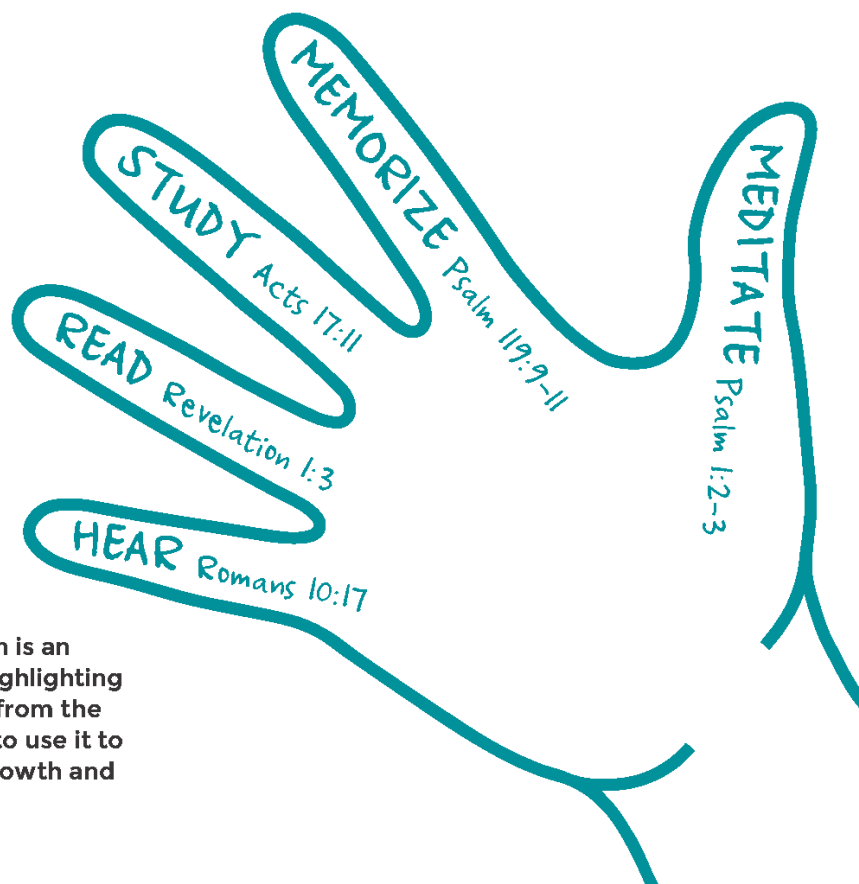
- youtube.com/OverviewBible/videos
- youtube.com/bibleproject

The internet is full of websites with tools that can help, but you must be careful not to be led astray, and to always check what you read with Scripture.

1 Thessalonians 5:21 says to “examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good.



Navigators Discipleship Tool



The Word Hand illustration is an easy-to-remember tool highlighting five methods of learning from the Bible. We encourage you to use it to spur your own spiritual growth and to inspire others.

THE WORD HAND

HEARING pastors and teachers teach from the Word provides fresh insight into the Scriptures. The weakest finger (the pinkie) represents hearing, because we retain only five percent of what we hear. *Romans 10:17*

READING gives us an overview of the Bible and is the foundation of a daily quiet time. This is represented by the ring finger. We generally retain 15 percent of what we read. *Revelation 1:3*

STUDYING the Scriptures deepens our convictions. It requires greater time and effort but results in increased knowledge of the Bible. Most people retain 35 percent of what they study. This is represented by the middle finger. *Acts 17:11*

MEMORIZING God's Word enables us to use Scripture, "the Sword of the Spirit" (Ephesians 6:17), to overcome temptations and to have verses readily available for ministering to others. The index finger, our strongest finger, represents memorization. We remember 100 percent of what we memorize if we consistently review it. *Psalm 119:9-11*

MEDITATION is the process that accompanies each of the other four methods of Scripture intake. This is why meditation is assigned to the thumb. Only the thumb can touch all the other four fingers. By meditating on God's Word as we hear, read, study, and memorize, we discover its transforming power at work in us. *Psalm 1:2-3*