

HOW TO SOAP

S. Scripture - *Study this Book continually* (Joshua 1:8)

- Let the water of the Word wash you.
- Pray before reading that the Holy Spirit would give you a hunger and ears to hear.
- Set a definite time to read and try to stick to it.
- Read with a purpose. Use a reading plan instead of randomly skipping around.
- Pray over what you read. If it stands out to you, pray about it.
- Guard against distractions.
- Write the scripture out on in a notebook or piece of paper.

O. Observation. - *Meditate on it day and night.* (Joshua 1:8)

1. Chew the cud.

- Reading aloud, saying the scriptures, and speaking (or murmuring) to myself about what I read
- Reading and then contemplating and reflecting on what I just read
- Focusing on different parts or things that stood out to me or meant something to me from what I just read
- Letting ideas or messages from the passage roll around in my imagination and thoughts
- Thinking about some observations in the passage
- Discerning some of the applications of the passage - (this is for later)

2. Underline and circle each word or phrase that stands out to you.

3. Observe the passage.

- What is the main lesson or theme?
- What's one thing you didn't notice before?
- What seems interesting or unusual?
- What comes before and after the text?
- What words seem interesting to you?
- Is there repetition, comparison, or contrast?
- Who is it written by? Who is it written to?
- Who is the audience?
- What is the genre?

4. Read the whole chapter and identify ways it affects your passage.

5. Go to the experts

- Bible Project
- Bible Study Podcast
- Through the Word (APP)
- Bible Hub
- Bible Gateway

6. Use the experts to help you understand meaning and context

- Look up cross references
- Do Word Studies
- Use context clues
- Consider the genre

7. Write down the 3 am statement

- What is the only thing that matters in that moment

A. Application. - *obeying everything in it.* (Joshua 1:8)

- What is God saying to me today?
- How does it apply to me?
- Are there any changes I need to make?
- Is there anything I should be thankful for?
- Is there a sin I need to confess to God?
- Is there a specific action I need to make?
- Is there somewhere I need to start serving?

P. Prayer. - *The Lord is with you wherever you go.* (Joshua 1:9)

1. Respond to God's Word with your own words.

2. Pray the seed of scripture falls on good soil in your heart.

- **Praise** God for His attributes revealed in the passage.
- **Admit** any sin that has come to light during this time of studying.
- **Request** the Holy Spirit to continue growing you into a disciple of Jesus.
- **Thank** Him for His Word and His care.