



How to do a Book Study

8 Simple Steps

1. Pick a book to study (we recommend a short book like James your first time out!).
2. Read the book from beginning to end (preferably in one sitting)
3. After reading the book, write down the top three or more things that stand out to you or come to mind from your reading.
4. Review the Book Study Worksheet to get an idea of things to look for as you do a book study.
5. Read the book again with the worksheet alongside you.
6. Fill in the worksheet as you read
7. What did you learn?
8. Collaborate with friends if you can.

Tips and Hints for Doing a Book Study

Pick a book to study

You can pick any book you like. For the purposes of completing this study and getting the experience of completing a book study, we recommend starting with one of the smaller books, perhaps four or five chapters. Galatians, Ephesians, Colossians, or one of the letters of Peter work well for starting out.

For those trying a book study for the first time, we recommend the book of James. The book of James can be read start to finish in one sitting in forty five minutes or less.

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James is easy to relate to day to day living. James tends to be a great starting point for those new to studying the Bible as well as those who are expanding their studying capabilities with a heart for discipleship.

Read the entire book

Try to read the book all the way through in one sitting if possible. Of course, this is not necessarily possible with larger books or more complicated books.

Write down the top things that come to mind

Do not make this too tough. Keep it easy and simple. Just write down the first things that come to your mind. These tend to be areas that are relevant to you, questions that come to mind, or areas where God may be speaking to you about something. There is no right or wrong answer. If you are comfortable, share and exchange these with your group or leader.

Review the Book Study Worksheet

This is to help this is to help you know what to look for so you can get the context of the book and some insight into its meaning. Read through the worksheet. Be aware of the different type of information you will want to look for when reading through the book a second time. Knowing what to look for will be a big help as you try to understand the meaning of what is written and how you can apply it to your life.

Read the book a second time

Do this with a copy of the Book Study Worksheet beside you, sort of like an open book test like one test like one you may have taken in school.

Review your notes and summarize them

By the time you are done, you will have very likely gained a lot of insight into God's Word. You will also very likely have a list of questions and other things you would like to study in the future. Now you are off on a

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journey discovering what God has to say about you, the world, and your particular circumstances.

Collaborate

The Bible says, "As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend." (See Proverbs 27:17). Studying the Bible with a friend can help add insight and perspective to your study. Have fun learning and growing with your friends who are also interested in learning more about God and the Bible. are also interested in learning more about God and the Bible.