

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.
2 Timothy 3:16-17

These verses tell us that the Bible comes directly from God and does 4 things:

- Teaches us correct beliefs
- Corrects our wrong beliefs
- Corrects our wrong behavior
- Instructs us in right behavior

Though people can and have dangerously abused and misused the Bible (2 Peter 3:15-16), we work hard to handle it properly. Rather than using the Bible to justify what we already believe, we allow the Bible to shape our theology, thinking, desires, attitudes, and behavior. When we do, we become “complete and equipped for every good work.”

Therefore, the Bible is God’s complete revelation and has all that we need – There is nothing outside of the Bible to know for salvation or wise and godly living.

His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us.
2 Peter 1:3

grace

BIBLE CHURCH

The Bible is a unique collection of 66 books which not only contains but is the very Word of God, complete and unchangeable. At Grace Bible Church, the Bible alone forms the basis of all we teach and do.

BIBLE STUDY

2 Timothy 3:16-17

**We study the Bible
because it has all
of God's
instruction for all
of living and
believing.**

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Key Principles for Bible Study

#1 - God's Word is final and unchanging.

Isaiah 40:8

The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

#2 - The Bible is our standard of truth. It has complete authority, even over our feelings and experience.

John 17:17

Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

Galatians 1:8

But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.

#3 - God spoke clearly and plainly through the Bible, with the intent to be understood, believed, and obeyed.

Deuteronomy 29:29

The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.

2 Corinthians 1:13

For we are not writing to you anything other than what you read and understand and I hope you will fully understand.

#4 - God does not lie, change, or contradict himself. His word is totally reliable.

Numbers 23:19

God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?

#5 - We must diligently seek to handle the Bible correctly.

2 Timothy 2:15

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.

#6 - We stay within the bounds of Scripture. We avoid speculation, and devote ourselves to what God did reveal, not to what he did not.

1 Timothy 3:3-4

Charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine, nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies, which promote speculations rather than the stewardship from God that is by faith.

#7 - Bible study requires a desire to submit to and obey God. Hearing without submitting produces self-deception.

Psalms 119:124b-125

Teach me your statutes.
I am your servant; give me understanding, that I may know your testimonies!

James 1:22

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

How Do I Study the Bible?

Observation

What Does it Say?

Carefully and accurately examine the passage and its surrounding context to determine what the passage does and does not say. Answer the questions as completely as possible, Who? What? When? Where? Why? How?

Interpretation

What Does it Mean?

Based on accurate observations, determine the plain, normal meaning of the text as intended by the author and understood by the original audience. Do this through:

- The Context of the Passage
- Understanding the Proper Grammatical and Literary Structure
- The Original Historical and Cultural Context
- Staying Consistent with the Rest of the Bible

Answer the question: What's the main idea the author wants me to understand?

Application

What should I do?

Based on this passage, how does God want me to change? How do my theology, thinking, desires, attitudes, and behavior need to be different?