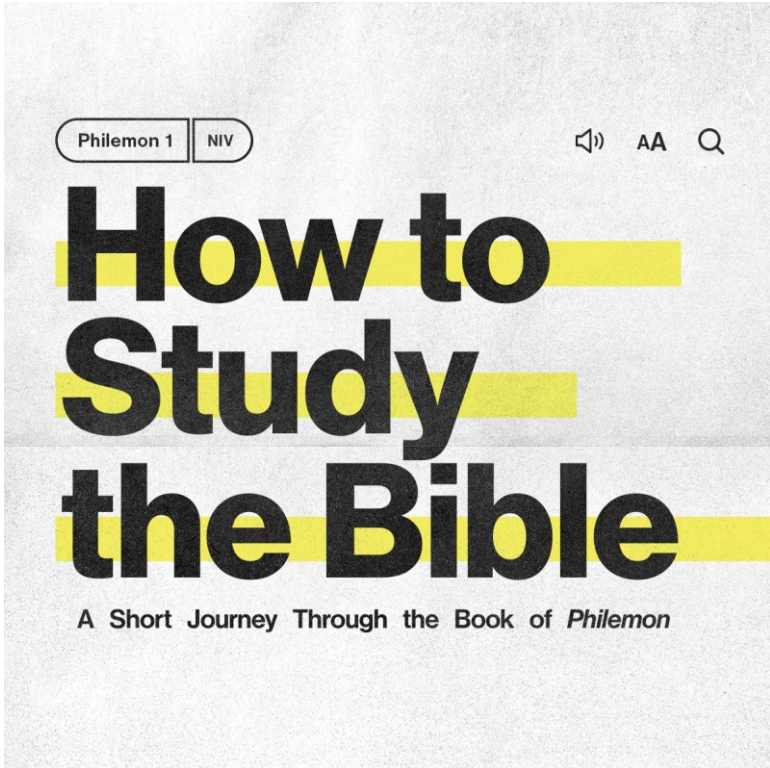


How to Study the Bible



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Examine Each **SPECK**

- Is there a **SIN** to be avoided?
- Is there a **PROMISE** to be claimed?
- Is there an **EXAMPLE** to follow?
- Is there a **COMMAND** to obey?
- Is there something to **KNOW** about God?

5. **Pray for God to _____**
and then apply what He shows you.

Therefore, although in Christ I could be bold and order you to do what you ought to do yet I prefer to appeal to you on the basis of love. It is none other than Paul – an old man and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus – that I appeal to you for my son, Onesimus, who became a son while I was in chains. (Philemon 1:8-10)

Formerly Onesimus was useless to you, but now he has become useful both to you and to me. (Philemon 1:11)

Formerly – But now!

While you are studying God's Story, He's writing your story.

Part 1: A Beginners Guide

For we have great joy and consolation in thy love, because the bowels of the saints are refreshed by thee, brother. Wherefore, though I might be bold in Christ to enjoin thee that which is convenient ... (Philemon 1:7-8 KJV)

1. Choose a _____ you understand.

My recommendations:

- NIV (New International Version)
- NLT (New Living Translation).

I personally use:

- The NIV Study Bible (Kenneth Parker, General Editor: Zondervan Publishers, Copyright 1985.)

2. Choose a _____, a _____, and a _____

3. Understand the _____

The Bible is ...

- A collection of 66 different books
- Written in three languages
- Across three continents
- Over a 1,500-year time period
- By 40 different authors
- Written by people and inspired by God

Three Simple Questions

- Who wrote it?
- To whom was it written?
- What is its purpose?

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, to Philemon our dear friend and fellow worker ... and to the church that meets in your home ... (Philemon 1:1-2)

4. Read _____ and _____

The Two Biggest Questions

- "What does this say about God?"
- "What is God saying to me?"

