

# Book Study - A Bible Study Template

## How to approach studying the Bible

1. Read the text: Establish author, audience and context
2. Read the text: Identify the message being communicated
3. Identify questions that you want to have answered: Use resources to find answers.
4. Read the text: Identify the message being communicated
5. Map the audience & message: Apply the message to your life
6. Compare your conclusions with others: Trace back any differences to the text

## Setting the Context

Objective: Become familiar with the contents of the book and understand what it is trying to communicate

**Step One: Read the book and identify the author and everything they reveal about themselves.**

**Step Two: Read the book and identify the audience and everything revealed about them.**

Map the audience – how close or far are they to us today?

**Step Three: Read the book and highlight or mark key words that jump out of the text at you.**

These could be key connecting words or words that seem important to the book (e.g. repetition, topical).

**Step Four: Read the book and summarize each paragraph with 1-3 key words from the paragraph.**

**Step Five: Make a list of questions that you have based on what you've read.**

Use your resources to look up information to answer the questions.

**Step Six: Write out in one sentence or a short paragraph what you currently understand the book to be about.**

This should be a concise version of all the information captured above:

- Author
- Audience
- Setting
- Reason for writing
- Key points made

# Book Study - A Bible Study Template

## How to approach studying the Bible

1. *Read the text: Establish author, audience and context (completed)*
2. Read the text: Identify the message being communicated
3. Identify questions that you want to have answered: Use resources to find answers.
4. Read the text: Identify the message being communicated
5. Map the audience & message: Apply the message to your life
6. Compare your conclusions with others: Trace back any differences to the text

## Understanding a Chapter

Objective: Identify the message of a chapter and apply it as God's word spoken into our lives.

**Step Two: Read the chapter and identify the message the author is communicating to the audience.**

**Step Three: Identify and write down any questions that arise out of the chapter.**

Use resources to research and answer the questions you've written down.

**Step Four: Read the chapter and refine the message the author is communicating to the audience**  
(now that your questions are answered)

**Step Five part 1: Map the Audience (review & revise)**

(how much and in what ways is the audience like us today?)

**Step Five part 2: Map the message to apply to me today**

- What commands must I obey?
  - What truth must I hold dear?
  - What error must I flee?
  - How is God revealed?
  - How is the gospel made clear?
- 
- What actions can I take in the next 7 days that will demonstrate what I said above is real?

**Step Six: Compare your conclusions**

Share your study results with a study buddy or compare it to a commentary to see how others have understood the passage.

## **Book Study - A Bible Study Template**

## **Book Study - A Bible Study Template**

### **Wrapping up your Study**

Objective: Internalize and synthesize the contents of the book and understand what it is trying to communicate

**Step 1: Look back over the book and identify any major sections that you now see in the book (that you maybe didn't see before when you were going through the first time).**

**Step 2: Look back through your overview of the book as well as each of the deep dives into the individual chapters and summarize what the book has to say.**

**Step 3: Write a single sentence that summarizes the theme or purpose of the book.**

**Step 4: Identify a single verse which provides the key to the book. This could be the key truth or could be a verse that provides a summary of the book.**

**Step 5: Considering the way you've mapped the audience, what's one application that comes out of the book of Titus?**

**Step Six: Compare your conclusions**