



“Going Deeper” Bible Study Method

1) Background - First, do a basic background study on the book: Who is the author? Why was it written? Learn the historical background, dates, key people, and so on. Some Bibles have summaries at the beginning of each book that will provide some of this information. A Bible dictionary or online commentary can also be helpful.

2) Personal Paraphrase - Starting with the first chapter, write out each verse or section of verses in your own words. This will help you understand each verse in wording that makes more sense to you.

3) Questions and Answers - Write down some questions you have about the passage or unfamiliar or confusing terms that you come across.

4) Cross References - Make a note of any similar or related passages that come to mind while you're reading, paraphrasing, and asking questions about the passage. Consult a concordance, other study guides, or footnotes to collect related passages you may not have considered.

5) Insights - If an observation occurs to you that relates to any part of the passage or its background, be sure to write it down. After completing your own analysis, consult a Bible commentary for additional insight. Seeking out other believers' insights about the passage can provide a broader, more solid understanding of the passage than you might be able to come to on your own. Remember, don't go to commentaries first; start by making your own observations.

6) Personal Application - Identify specific ways you can put the scripture into practice. Write down some actions that you can take this week!

7) Title and Summarize - After completing this verse-by-verse analysis of the chapter, assign it a title and identify a key verse or verses. This will help solidify the message of the chapter in your mind.

