



BIBLE STUDY GUIDE

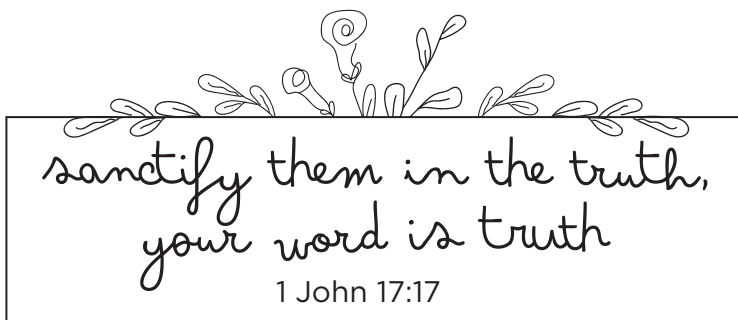
Before You Start

At Oh Hey Truth, we love God's Word, and we know it is how we grow in our knowledge of God. Whether you have been studying the Bible for ten years or are just beginning your journey, you are welcome and safe here! The Bible is absolute TRUTH - it is infallible, it teaches us about the character and nature of God. It tells us the story of God, and His people, and His plan for us and the future. It is a way for us to learn and grow in knowledge and Truth. As we seek the Lord through the Holy Scriptures, we grow and change and become sanctified! Through the Word, God makes Himself accessible to us. Through the Word, we learn how to walk and live in the Spirit. Through the Word, we find peace. Through the Word, we learn of God's redemptive plan for us. And best of all, through the word, we get to know JESUS!

Obviously, you want to know and study the Word because you are here in this space and reading these words. However, we all understand that it is never easy to make the time to form consistent habits to be in and of the Word. To immerse ourselves in the Word, we must make it a priority, have accountability, pray fervently, and consider it a non-negotiable (in the same way we do sleep!). The Bible is a big book and it can be overwhelming to start, but it is worth it. It is an endeavor that will hopefully be your life's work - to know God more fully. And, the reality is, you just have to start somewhere.

This Bible Study Guide will hopefully equip you to be faithful in your study. We will be using a method called C.I.A., which stands for Comprehend, Interpret, and Apply - it is simple but also deep, and it makes God the focus. We study the Word in context and not just to find some hidden meaning for ourselves. We observe the text, the author, and the culture. We use things like cross references to interpret what we are reading so that comprehension is possible. We see how God has woven the Gospel into each book of the Bible, and then we see how to apply it to our everyday lives! This is a process that takes time, a willingness to realize you do not know everything, and a prayerful desire to seek to find the answers (Jer. 29:13).

Our prayer is simple: that you may know God and love Him more because of your commitment to studying His Word. That you would not be afraid of what you do not know, but instead, seek Him with your whole mind and heart! *"Make me understand the way of your precepts, and I will meditate on your wondrous works."* Psalm 119: 27

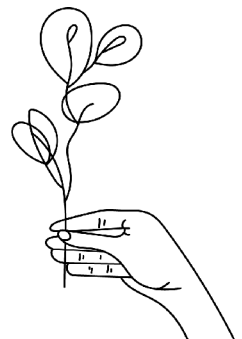


What is Included in this Guide?

- **Method Explanation:** This includes a checklist of things you will need when completing an OHT Bible Study, and it walks you through the CIA Bible Study method we will be using. We believe this method will be helpful for you anytime you're studying the Bible, whether you are doing an OHT study or not. We recommend creating a study binder for yourself, and placing this page at the very front for you to reference at any point!
- **Book Overview Worksheet:** This worksheet will guide you through understanding the context of the book you will be studying! We recommend filling this worksheet out before you begin studying the actual text so that you can better understand its original meaning. You might not be able to answer every question before you study the whole book, but you can always come back to complete it once you know the answers.
- **Bible Study Worksheet:** This worksheet gives you the space to work out the CIA method while studying a specific passage. We encourage you to print one out for as many days as you will be studying different passages. It will give you space to complete each of the three sections of CIA each day while guiding you through the study process!
- **Extra Notes:** This sheet is just in case you want the cute graphic and lines when taking notes! Print out several of these pages and stick them at the back of your study binder or behind your Bible Study Worksheet for each day so that you can take notes during the teaching videos.

Additional Resources We Use and Love

- ESV Study Bible
- *Women of the Word* by Jen Wilkin
- The Bible Project Videos
- ESV Illuminated Scripture Journals
- Dwell App or our own scripture reading podcasts
- Blue Letter Bible
- StudyLight
- *For You Commentaries* on individual books





BIBLE STUDY METHOD EXPLANATION

What You Need

- A hard copy of the text
- Printed copy of the Bible Study Guide
- 3-ring binder to hold the Bible Study Guide (optional)
- Pen, pencil, markers, highlighters, etc.
- Study Bible or method for finding Cross References
- A journal if that is your thing for extra notes and prayer time (optional)

Prepare to Begin

- **PRAY:** This is by far the most important aspect of your study time in God's Word. We cannot even begin to understand His Word without the help of the Holy Spirit. Get your mind and heart focused on God, and ask Him to clear your mind from distractions as you study. Ask Him to help you see HIM throughout Scripture, and therefore, how it should be applied to your own life!
- **Read** the entire book all the way through at least once.
- **Complete** the **Book Overview Worksheet** before you begin studying the text.

C.I.A METHOD

Comprehend: "What does this text say?"

The first and most important step! Before you can study the text further, you need to know what it says. Think of this section as "gathering the facts!" These steps should help you gain a basic understanding of the text, but it is ok if you still have questions at the end of this phase! Make sure to write these questions down, and don't be afraid to rest in the "I don't know phase."

- Read the passage at least 2 times, but more is better - Repetition is key!
- Know the book's background info. The who, what, when, why, where, and why. This will include the author, audience, date, location, historical context and background.
- Determine the genre of the text you are reading (historical narrative, wisdom literature, prophetic literature, apocalyptic literature, gospel, epistle, etc.)
- List/write symbols and circle words/phrases that are repeated throughout the text.
- Define words you don't know and any important words. Always defining repeated words!
- List any commands, exhortations, warnings.

- Notice the key themes and write them down.
- Write down what this teaches about God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
- Summarize the passage in your own words - 3-5 sentences.
- Write down all the questions you have as you read the text.

Interpret: “What does this text mean?”

Now it is time to start going deeper into the text. It is important to remember that each book in Scripture was originally written to a specific audience with a specific purpose. The meaning of the text is not one to be decided by the reader, but should instead be understood using the set of tools below. We want to discover the true meaning of the text within the context that it was written!

- Look up and write down any connected cross-references to the text. Scripture does a great job of interpreting Scripture for you!
- Compare the text in different Bible translations. Download a Bible app that allows you to read different Bible translations side-by-side. Take note of any differences you see that help shed light on the text’s meaning.
- Paraphrase/summarize each verse as you go - 2-3 sentences.
- Consider how this passage fits into this specific book of the Bible.
- Consider how the text fits into the storyline of the Bible as a whole.
- How do you see Jesus and the Gospel in these passages?
- Reference maps, footnotes, and study notes in your bible to help you understand the text.
- Continue to ask yourself: “Who was this text originally written for and what was happening in that time?”

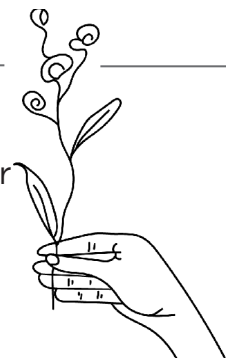
Apply: “How does this text apply to my life?”

The most important thing we can take away from Scripture is what it reveals to us about God. It is only through understanding who God is that we can understand who we are in comparison. After working through the C and the I, ask yourself the following questions. Take your time on these questions, write your answers in a journal, or process with a friend.

- What did this text teach me about God?
- What did this text show me about myself?
- Is there any sin in my life that I need to confess?
- How do I apply the Truth of this text in my daily life?
- Who is someone I can encourage with this text today?

Pray

Again, THE MOST IMPORTANT STEP! Take time to pray and thank God for His Word. Confess your sin and ask for forgiveness. Ask Him to give you the wisdom and strength to live out His Word today!





BIBLE STUDY

BOOK OVERVIEW WORKSHEET

Before You Begin

Before you begin studying the text, it is important that you know the context in which the Scripture was written. Without first understanding the context of which the text was written, it will be hard to determine its meaning. Take time to look up the **first five** pieces of information. The remaining items can be filled out as you continue studying the book!

Book Title

Author: _____

Audience: _____

When was it written: _____

Type of literature: _____

Why it was written: _____

Key Themes: _____

What characteristics about God are revealed through this book? _____



BIBLE STUDY

BIBLE STUDY WORKSHEET

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Passage: _____

Comprehend: “What does this text say?”

Who is involved in the passage: _____

What is happening? _____

When and where? _____

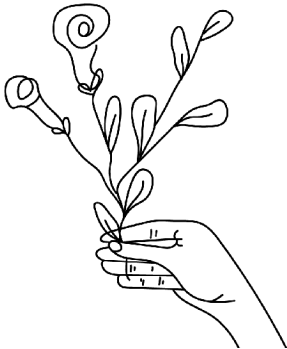
Repeated words, themes, ideas you notice: _____

Define the words:

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

Summary of the text in your own words: (3-5 sentences)

Questions and notes you have:



Interpret: “What does this text mean?”

What are your initial thoughts on this passage?

List important cross references

List different words/phrases that stuck out in other versions of scripture:

Paraphrase any key verses in 2-3 sentences:

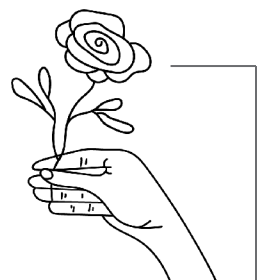
Do you see the Gospel in this passage? How and where?

Apply: “How does this text apply to my life?”

Take time to answer the following questions:

1. What did this text teach me about God?
2. What did this text show me about myself?
3. Is there any sin in my life that I need to confess?
4. Who is someone I can encourage with this text today?

Close with prayer





BIBLE STUDY EXTRA NOTES



NOTES.... _____

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