

## Tips for Inductive Bible Study

Over the past few years, the Lord has led us away from using written lessons with guided questions, to utilizing an inductive approach. So, what is inductive Bible study?

We like how Precept Ministries describes it:

*“Inductive Bible study is a method of studying the Bible that allows you to discover for yourself what Scripture says, what it means, and how to apply its truths to your life...we believe that the process of discovering truth for yourself is essential to knowing God deeply and living differently.”*

**If you are new to this type of study, it can feel a little daunting. To help you in this approach, we have provided some tips below. Remember, the goal is not to follow a methodology but to encounter the Lord through His word, so please allow Him to lead you and focus on what draws you closer to Him.**

- Begin with prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you.
- Because we are learning to let the Lord teach us, refrain from turning to others' interpretations (commentaries, sermons, study notes) until after personal study
- Carefully read through the passage, taking note of any questions you have or anything that piques your interest. The Holy Spirit often prompts us in this way.
- Meditate on, take time to ponder a verse or truth, asking the Holy Spirit to help you understand
- Pursue questions and interests using Bible study tools like a concordance or Bible app (see below) to find definitions of words and to cross reference related Scripture
- You may find it helpful to:
  - Read the passage in different translations
  - Put key ideas in your own words
  - Investigate background information about the author, audience, purpose, etc.
- Reflect on the passage: what does it reveal about the Lord (Father, Son, Holy Spirit)? Did anything challenge, intrigue or encourage you? Is there action to take?
- Close your time in praise and prayer.
- We encourage you to engage with the passage several times during the week. The word of God is living and active; He will show you new things as you seek Him in His word!

### **Bible study tool resources:**

- Blue Letter Bible – [blueletterbible.org](http://blueletterbible.org) and via mobile app
- Bible Gateway - [biblegateway.com](http://biblegateway.com)
- Bible Concordance

### **Want to learn more about inductive Bible Study approaches?**

- Precept Ministries - [precept.org/2023/02/what-is-inductive-bible-study/](http://precept.org/2023/02/what-is-inductive-bible-study/)
- Navigators - [navigators.org/resource/how-to-study-the-bible](http://navigators.org/resource/how-to-study-the-bible)