BIBLE STUDY METHODS

- **Expositional Method** - Bible book-by-book, verse-by-verse in any order focusing on the writer’s thoughts and presentation
- **Chronological Method** - Bibles available for reading historically from oldest to newest or through the Bible in a year
- **Sequential Method** - book by book straight through from Genesis to Revelation
- **Thematic or Topical Method** - by subject or theme; God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, Satan, sin, judgment, prophecy
- **Biographical or Character Method** - Adam, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Joshua, Ruth, David, Solomon, Ezra, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Jesus, Peter, James, John, Paul
- **Word Study** - pick a word like sin, salvation, redemption, justification and locate that word throughout the Bible using a concordance
- **Survey Method** - *Old Testament* - Pentateuch (Genesis - Deuteronomy), History (Joshua - Esther), Poetry (Job - Song of Solomon); Major Prophets (Isaiah - Daniel); Minor Prophets (Hosea - Malachi); *New Testament* - Gospels (Matthew - John); History (Acts); Pauline Letters (Romans - Philemon); General Epistles (Hebrews - Jude); Prophecy (Revelation)

BIBLE STUDY TOOLS

**Study Bibles**

- The Open Bible, Nelson Publishing, with Biblical Cyclopedic Index
- The Scofield (1917) and The New Scofield Study Bible (1967+), commentary by C. I. Scofield
- The Thompson Chain Reference Study Bible, coded and complied topical
**Bible**

- The MacArthur Study Bible, by Pastor John MacArthur
- The Life Principles Study Bible, by Pastor Charles Stanley
- Life Application Study Bible, outlines, indices, summaries, sidebars, etc.

**Speciality Bibles**

- The Archaeological Study Bible (NIV) by Zondervan
- The Case for Christ Study Bible (NIV) by Lee Strobel
- The Evidence Bible (NKJV) by Ray Comfort
- The HSCB Apologetics Study Bible (HSCB)
- The Key Word Study Bible (KJV, NKJV, NASB, NIV) focus on Hebrew & Greek meanings
- The KJV Dake Annotated Reference Bible by Finneas J. Dake
- The KJV Companion Bible by E. W. Bullinger
- The KJV American Patriot’s Bible
- The NKJV Chronological Study Bible

**Study Guides**

- John MacArthur Bible Studies Series
- Warren Wiersbe “The Be” Bible Study Series
- Charles Stanley Life Principles Study Series
- Max Lucado Life Lessons Study Series
- Henry Blackaby Study Guides
- Beth Moore or Kay Arthur for women study guides

**Audio Bibles**

- KJV Bible on CD by Alexander Scourby
• NKJV Complete Audio Bible by Stephen Johnston
• NASB Bible on CD by Stephen Johnston
• NIV Pure Voice Audio Bible by George W. Sarris
• ESV Complete Bible on CD by Stephen Johnston

_Hendrickson Loose-Leaf Bibles_
• King James Version (KJV)
• New King James Version (NKJV)
• New American Standard Bible (NASB)
• English Standard Version (ESV)
• New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

_Concordance / Topical_
• Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance
• Young’s Analytical Concordance
• Nave’s Topical Bible
• MacArthur’s Topical Bible
• Vine’s Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words
• Mounce’s Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words

_Dictionary - dictionaries specifically for Bible study_
• Easton’s Bible Dictionary
• Smith’s Bible Dictionary
• Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary
• Zondervan Illustrated Bible Dictionary
• The New Unger’s Bible Dictionary
Bible Atlas (Maps)
- Crossway Bible Atlas
- Holman Bible Atlas
- Nelson Bible Maps and Charts
- Oxford Bible Atlas
- Zondervan Atlas of the Bible

Commentaries - book or series of books of Biblical scholars
- Barnes Notes, http://www.studylight.org/com/bnn/
- Warren Wiersbe Commentaries
- John MacArthur Commentaries
- John Philips New Testament Commentaries
- J. Vernon McGee, Thru the Bible Commentaries

Devotionals - daily Biblical readings that spiritually encourage and edify
- Our Daily Bread http://odb.org/
- Morning and Evening by Charles Spurgeon, http://www.crosswalk.com/devotionals/morningandevening/?gclid=Cle7utDbsq0CFUio4AodNAKRGg
- My Utmost for His Highest by Oswald Chambers, http://utmost.org/

Apologetics - defense of the faith
- The New Evidence That Demands A Verdict by Josh McDowell
- The Case for Christ by Lee Strobel
• The Case for Faith by Lee Strobel
• The Case for the Resurrection by Lee Strobel
• The Case for a Creator by Lee Strobel

_Bible Memorization_ - hiding His Word in our hearts for His glory and our good

• Navigator’s Topical Memory System - http://www.christianbook.com/navigators-topical-memory-system/the-navigators/9781576839973/pd/839974
• Jack Van Impe Scripture Memory - http://www.jvim.com/scripturememorization.htm
• How To Memorize Scripture - http://carm.org/how-to-memorize-scripture

_Evangelism_

• Living Waters at www.livingwaters.com
• Billy Graham Evangelistic Association at http://www.billygraham.org/
• The Navigators at http://www.navigators.org/us/
• Evangelism Explosion at http://evangelismexplosion.org/
• Effective Evangelism at http://www.christiananswers.net/evangelism/home.html

_Bible Software_

• e-Sword Bible Software - http://www.e-sword.net/
• Accordance Bible Software - http://www.accordancebible.com/
• Olive Tree - http://www.olivetree.com/
• Logos Bible Software - http://www.logos.com/
• BibleSoft - http://www.biblesoft.com/new/
• BibleWorks - http://www.bibleworks.com/
• QuickVerse - http://www.quickverse.com/
**Bible Versions** - Example: John 3:16

*Word-for-word (literal translation)*

- **King James Version (KJV)** - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

- **New King James Version (NKJV)** - For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

- **New American Standard Bible (NASB)** - “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

- **English Standard Version (ESV)** - “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

- **Amplified Bible (AMP)** - For God so greatly loved and dearly prized the world that He [even] gave up His only begotten (unique) Son, so that whoever believes in (trusts in, clings to, relies on) Him shall not perish (come to destruction, be lost) but have eternal (everlasting) life.

- **Revised Standard Version (RSV)** - For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

- **New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)** - ‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

*Thought-for-thought (dynamic equivalence)*
• **New International Version (NIV)** - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

• **Today’s New International Version (TNIV)** - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

• **Holman Christian Standard Bible (HSCB)** - “For God loved the world in this way: He gave His One and Only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.

• **New Living Translation (NLT)** - “For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

• **New Century Version (NCV)** - "God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son so that whoever believes in him may not be lost, but have eternal life.

Paraphrase (rephrased by the author)

• **Good News Translation (GNT)** - For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life.

• **God’s Word Translation (GWT)** - God loved the world this way: He gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.

• **Contemporary English Version (CEV)** - God loved the people of this world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who has faith in him will have eternal life and never really die.

• **Philips New Testament (PNT)** - For God loved the world so much that he
gave his only Son, so that every one who believes in him shall not be lost, but should have eternal life.

- **The Message (MSG)** - This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life.

Review and compare many versions of the Bible by verse or chapter at:

- **BibleGateway** - www.biblegateway.com
- **YouVersion** - www.youversion.com
- **Bible.com** - www.bible.com/
- **BibleStudyTools** - www.biblestudytools.com/
- **GreatSite** - http://www.greatsite.com/ (The Bible Museum)