



SOAP Bible Study: Scripture, Observation, Application, Prayer

You will need a journal to make full use of this Bible study method.

Scripture

- a. Read a passage from a Bible study reading plan. YouVersion app or Bible.com plans are a great starting point.
- b. Pick one verse that really speaks to you from your Bible reading.
- c. Write the verse by hand or retype the verse. (Don't cut and paste if you're using a smart phone or computer.) This will get the verse into your heart and mind better.
- d. Rewrite the verse in your own words.

Observation

- a. What does the passage mean? Ask: Who? What? When? Where? Why?
- b. A good way to get at a verse's or passage's meaning is to apply these three questions:
 1. What does it say about God?
 2. What does it say about people?
 3. What does it say about the relationship between God and people?
- c. What words stand out in the passage? What words, if any, are used repeatedly in the passage?
- d. Write a one- or two-sentence observation about the passage or verse.

Application

- a. Write a one- or two-sentence application from that verse.
- b. Questions to ask of the verse or passage to help with the application:
Is there:
 - A command to obey?
 - A promise to claim?
 - A sin to avoid?
 - An application to make?

Prayer

- a. Write a one or two sentence prayer to God in response to this Scripture. Connect your prayer to your application of the passage.
- b. Listen to God. Listen for answers along these lines:
 - What is God saying to me?
 - Telling me about himself?
 - About myself?
 - About our relationship?
 - About what I should do?
- c. Write down what you feel God is saying to you.