

Guiding Scripture

“The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.” – John 10:10

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” – 2 Timothy 2:15

THE DISCIPLINE OF STUDY

Study is a specific kind of experience in which through careful attention to reality the mind is enabled to move in a certain direction.

The Old Testament instructs the Israelites to write the laws on gates and doorposts and bind them on their wrists.

“Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.” – Deuteronomy 11:18-19

The Four Steps Of Study

Study involves 4 Steps...

- **Repetition** – regularly channels the mind in a specific direction, thus ingraining the habits of thought.
 - *Repetition helps to improve speed, increases confidence, and strengthens the connections in the brain that help individuals learn.*
- **Concentration** – centers the mind and focuses its attention on what’s being studied.
 - *Concentration allows you to better use your resources and approach problems more efficiently. When you are concentrating it is less likely that you will miss important information. Staying focused helps you memorize things more easily.*
- **Comprehension** – focuses on the knowledge of the truth.
 - *John 8:32, “And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”*
 - *KNOW = Knowledge of the Truth/Discernment*
- **Reflection** – brings us to see things from God’s perspective.
 - *Reflection causes you to learn what God is saying in a particular text.*

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SOAP stands for:

- **Scripture** – Read a passage of scripture and write down a verse or two that jumps out to you.
- **Observation** – What are your personal observations that you note from this scripture?
- **Application** – How does it now apply to your everyday life? What can you do to apply this in your life today?
- **Prayer** – Write a personal prayer based on your observation and application.